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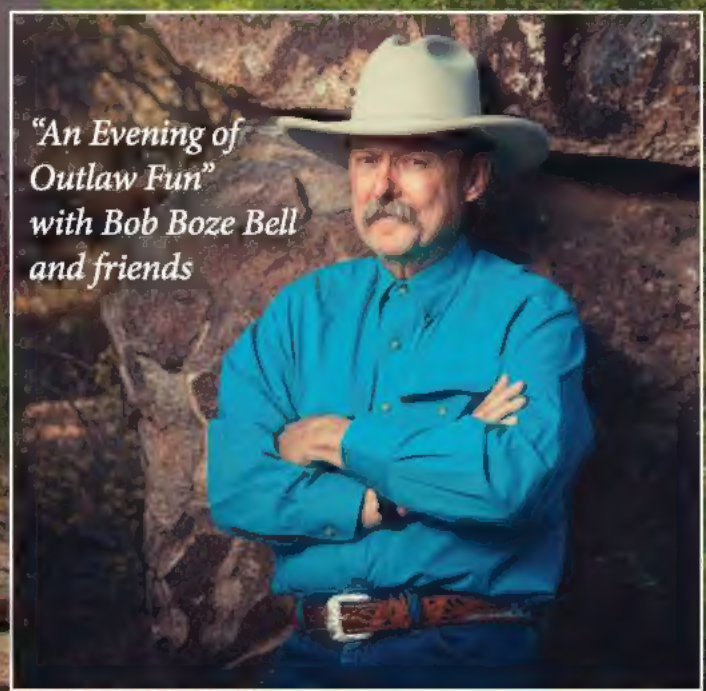

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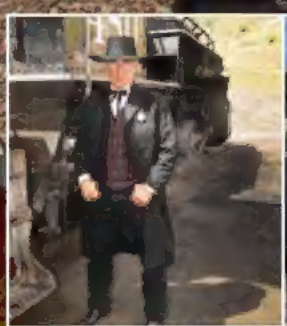

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Ride With Pancho Villa – The Liberator of Mexico

The Pancho Villa Tribute Rifle

He was a hero, a bandit, a commander, a fugitive, a revolutionary, a man of the people and the most famous person in modern Mexican history. He was Francisco "Pancho" Villa.

Villa rose from humble origins to be one of the most powerful men in North America – a name recognized, respected, loved and feared on both sides of the Border. Born Doroteo Arango, in Durango, Mexico, Villa became an outlaw after shooting a man who outraged his sister. From that point on he was never without a horse or a gun – trademarks that would be part of his persona until his death.

After successfully evading the *Rurales* police force for almost a decade, always a friend of the poor, Villa and his men joined the revolutionary forces fighting against the oppressive regime of Porfirio Diaz. In short order his charisma and leadership abilities catapulted him to a generalship of the Army of the North and a place in the hearts and minds of the Mexican people forever.

Perhaps Villa's most famous exploit, to Americans, was his raid on Columbus, New Mexico, where he confronted civilians and the U.S. military and was driven back over the border. This incident led to the formation of an American punitive expedition into Mexico, led by General John "Blackjack" Pershing (along with his youthful aide, Lieutenant George S. Patton, Jr.) Despite dragging cavalry, artillery, trucks and automobiles, and even airplanes over vast expanses of Northern Mexico, the *Yanquis* never apprehended the elusive Villa.

Villa was a deft hand with rifle and pistol. During the Revolution one of the most sought-after firearms was Winchester's famed Model 94 lever-action .30-30. Immortalized in the soldiers' song *Carabina Treinta Trenta*, it was the proud Villista who carried one of these fine repeaters in his saddle scabbard. Now America Remembers recreates the fascinating era of the Mexican Revolution and the irrepressible character of its most well-known character with an elegantly embellished rifle honoring the "Centaur of the North," Pancho Villa.

The Pancho Villa Tribute is, fittingly enough, a working Winchester Model 94 rifle in .30-30 caliber. Each working rifle is handsomely decorated by craftsmen specifically commissioned by America Remembers with artwork in elegant 24-karat gold and nickel against a blackened background, depicting scenes and motifs from the life of this flamboyant Mexican revolutionary leader.

Francisco "Pancho" Villa

Right side of the receiver features Villa wearing his signature sombrero, standing with members of the army prior to the first capture of Ciudad Juarez in 1911. Villa's flamboyant signature is depicted above the loading gate, and to the right, the General poses proudly with a Hotchkiss machine gun.

Left side shows a dapper Villa wearing a tailored Norfolk jacket, fancy cravat and his favorite pith helmet. In the center, the "Centaur of the North" pose shows the classic Villa – wearing a sombrero, ready for action, on horseback with his Winchester handy in a saddle scabbard. To the right, Villa sits in the presidential chair in Mexico City, flanked by General Emiliano Zapata, commander of the Army of the South, and General Tomás Urbina.

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Only 300 of the Pancho Villa Tribute Rifles will ever be produced. Reservations will be accepted in the order they are received. We will arrange delivery of your Tribute through a licensed firearms dealer of your choice. If for any reason you are less than satisfied, you may return it in original unfired condition within 30 days for a full refund.

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1 The Outlaw Revolutionary

Pancho Villa was the only outlaw whom revolutionary leader Abraham González asked to join Francisco Madero's movement to overthrow Mexican dictator Porfiro Díaz. Quite possibly, González had promised Villa amnesty for his desertion from the federal army and his killing of bandit-turned-police informant Claro Reza. In March 1911, Villa (fifth from left) joined Madero at his headquarters, the Bustillos hacienda west of Chihuahua City, Mexico, where this photo is believed to have been taken.

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TRUE WEST
HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN FRONTIER

True West captures the spirit of the West with authenticity, personality and humor by providing a necessary link from our history to our present.

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July 2015 Online and Social Media Content

In 1898, Teddy Roosevelt's Rough Riders arrived with horses at Florida's Port Tampa and ended up without them in Cuba. Find this and more historical photography on our "Western History" board.

Pinterest.com/TrueWestMag

Go behind the scenes of *True West* with Bob Boze Bell to see this and more of his Daily Whipouts (search for "May 7, 2015").

Blog.TrueWestMagazine.com

Join the Conversation

"I've read out on the plains many a wife literally went crazy listening to the wind coming through the gaps and no light in the winter."

- Carol Norris Rice, of Fort Smith, Arkansas

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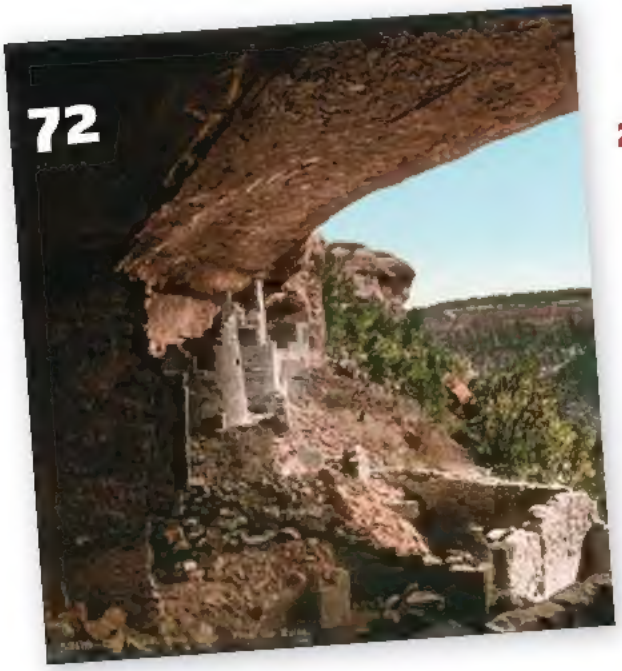

22 PANCHO IN PICTURES

A peasant and an outlaw rose up the social ladder to become one of Mexico's greatest leaders of the Mexican Revolution. We explore Pancho Villa's journey through the best photographs captured of the general, who remains as divisive today as he did in his own time.

—By the Editors, with additional reporting by Cameron Douglas

72 AMERICAN INDIAN TRAILS OF THE WEST

From the Cliff Palace ruins at Mesa Verde to Canyon de Chelly, the rich cultural history of North America's first nations awaits the adventurous traveler.

—By Cheewa James

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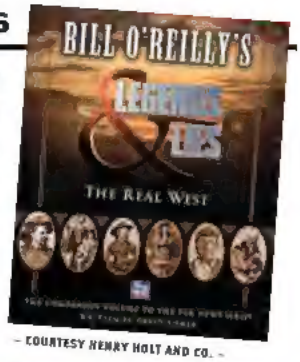
"Legends" & Costly Lies



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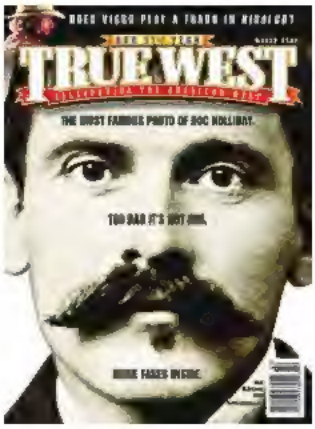
We have mixed feelings about Bill O'Reilly's *Legends & Lies: The Real West* Fox News Channel series and the companion volume written by David Fisher. First, the love: We appreciate that the book hit number one on the bestsellers list. This brings new people to our world, and that is a good thing.

The problem for us is that some of the reporting is embarrassing. For example, how many times do we have to run the fake photo of Doc Holliday on the cover of *True West* before everyone gets the message: It's *not* Doc Holliday!



This bogus photo graced our March 2004 issue, which featured an article on fake photographs. *Legends & Lies* identified this as a photo of Doc Holliday, yet it's not him.

Despite the series featuring some of the top Old West history experts, including some who contribute to our magazine, the show got a surprising amount wrong. Having been involved in many documentaries, Bob Boze Bell understands firsthand how contributors do not know what will end up on the show until it airs. Comments are sometimes taken out of context, and even a perspective one felt was important to share about a person or event may have been edited out altogether. We are glad the show has people talking about Old West history; we just wish the staff had done a little more homework.

Stay tuned. Our book editor will write an in-depth review of both the book and TV series for our next issue.

Good for One Screw

– TRUE WEST ARCHIVES –

A *True West* subscriber told us an interesting story pertaining to Mattie Silks, a late 19th-century madam in Denver, Colorado. She apparently stalked potential clients at the train station when they were fresh off the train–and still had money in their pockets. She sold them tokens that were "good for one screw" at her brothel.

In the 1970s, Mayor William McNichols Jr. advanced a major urban renewal project to renovate some historic buildings on Larimer and Market Streets. A stash of the madam's tokens were found in the wall of a hotel.

The walls of the rooms had little doors so customers could slip their slop jars out into the hall for the stewards to empty. Mattie's girls may have used the walls to hide their proceeds, and perhaps one forgot, or was unable, to retrieve hers. The hole in the wall was plastered over when the rooms were renovated, and the stash remained hidden all those years.

After the mayor donated many of these tokens to Colorado historical museums, he made a gift of some tokens to his strong supporters. Our subscriber was one of those lucky recipients.

We find that doubly ironic–"Good for one screw"–as a gift from a politician.

MEXICAN WOMAN WHO LIVED THROUGH REVOLUTION DIES AT 127

– COURTESY LATESTNEWS/YOUTUBE –

Leandra Becerra Lumbreras, who died on March 19, 2015, in Zapopan in the western state of Jalisco, Mexico, was born in the northern border state of Tamaulipas on August 31, 1887.

Her grandson, 70-year-old Samuel Alvear, said she used to regale him with stories about the Mexican Revolution, meeting Pancho Villa and how she used to make tortillas for the soldiers. She fought as a member of the Adelitas, women who joined their husbands in battle.

Becerra had five children, who preceded her in death, but she has reportedly left behind about 130 descendants.

2 Had Pancho Villa been executed for stealing a horse from one of Gen. Victoriano Huerto's officers, he would never have ridden into fame during the Mexican Revolution.

– TRUE WEST ARCHIVES –

Pancho Villa: Serial Monogamist

The legendary Mexican general certainly was the marrying kind.

Pancho Villa was a rock star. But unlike his randy North American cousins, Villa usually married his groupies.

"When I was in Torreón," Villa wrote a friend, "I had an affair with a secretary and in order to accede to her wishes, I simulated a marriage with her. This marriage was a fake since I persuaded a judge to carry out the marriage ceremony and to write up an official certificate, but then I ordered him to destroy it immediately."

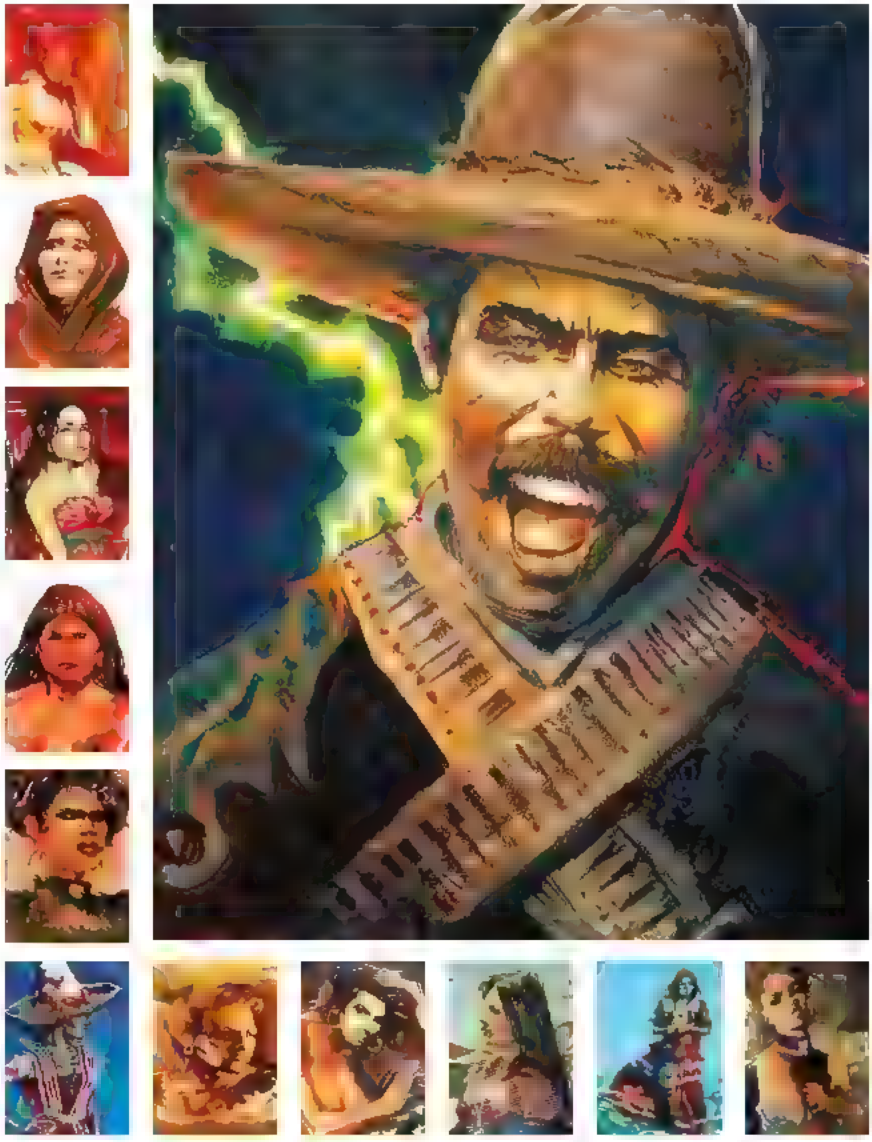
Villa went on to state he regretted the falsehood, but his guilt didn't seem to stop him from marrying whenever he got the urge, which, according to legend, was quite often.

The number of alleged "wives" Villa married is unknown, but we do know that at the time of his death, four women claimed to be his wife.

He first married Luz Corral in 1911, then Soledad Seañez, in 1919. He exchanged vows in 1921 with Austreberta Rentería. The following year, he married his mistress, Manuela Casas, who bore Villa a son and ran a hotel in Parral (he gave her a house too).

Corral, the first wife, had been banished from Villa's estate in Canutillo and was receiving no support from Villa at the time of his death. That she ended up with anything is amazing (see p. 42), since she had to go through President Álvaro Obregón, who had defeated Villa in battle in 1915 and, according to Villa's biographer Friedrich Katz, probably played a part in his assassination.

After Villa's death, all four women visited the cemetery in Parral, Chihuahua, on the anniversary of his assassination. Each one laid a wreath on his grave, but not before removing the flowers placed by the wife before her. Ay-yi-yi!



Everyone agrees Pancho Villa had a thing for the ladies. Several accounts have Villa leading his army into a Mexican village, picking out the best looking señorita and then asking a constable, or priest, to marry them. This was followed by the inevitable honeymoon. Afterwards, Villa had the marriage annulled. The actual number of these temporary unions is hard to nail down, but some estimates have the general marrying at least 26 women and producing at least 20 children.

ILLUSTRATED BY BOB BOZE BELL

For a behind-the-scenes look at running this magazine, check out BBB's daily blog at TWMag.com

Quotes

"I have the duty to inform you that Pancho Villa is everywhere and nowhere at the same time."

Unnamed officer in Mexican President Venustiano Carranza's army, translated from the 2007 book ¡Vamonos con Pancho Villa! by Rafael F. Muñoz

---

"Never tell people *how* to do things. Tell them *what* to do, and they will surprise you with their ingenuity."

- U.S. Army Gen. George S. Patton Jr.

"No nation could preserve its freedom in the midst of continual warfare."

- U.S. Congressman James Madison, in "Political Observations," 1795

"...the brutality and uncouthness of many of the revolutionary leaders has not prevented them from becoming popular myths. Villa still gallops through the north, in songs and ballads; Zapata dies at every popular fair.... It is the Revolution, the magical word, the word that is going to change everything, that is going to bring us immense delight and a quick death."

Octavio Paz, winner of the 1990 Nobel Prize in Literature, the first Mexican writer to become a Nobel laureate

Bizarro BY DAN PIRARO

"I go to see maybe seven films a year at the most, and since I only go to see the best, it follows that I very rarely see my own."

-Oscar-Winning Actor Jack Palance

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"Men will not forget that Pancho Villa was loyal to the cause of the people."

–Mexican Revolution Gen. Pancho Villa

Old Vaquero Saying

"An army of sheep led by a lion will defeat an army of lions led by a sheep."

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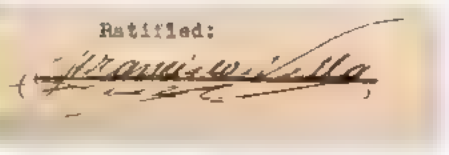
BY MARK BOARDMAN

Video Villa!

Long live Pancho Villa, Mutual Film and the Mexican Revolution in Hollywood's memory.

Pancho Villa wears his studio provided uniform in this publicity shot taken in 1914 by Mutual Film Corporation. Villa was supposed to return the uniform to Mutual, but he may have pitched it when filming ended.

COURTESY MUTUAL FILM CORPORATION



Mexican Revolution leader Pancho Villa knew the value of good publicity. Mutual Film Corporation knew the potential profits of silver screen war. So in January 1914, the two came to a mutual (pun intended) agreement to boost each other's profiles and pocketbooks.

They would make a movie!

The popular tale states Mutual agreed to pay $25,000 in gold to Villa, money he could use to buy weapons and supplies. Villa agreed to fight only during daylight, to aid the cameramen, and to let the film crew direct his troops to get the best shots.

Now that would be a Hollywood war.

But the actual movie contract, Villa biographer Friedrich Katz revealed, was simpler. Villa gave Mutual the exclusive right to shots of the revolutionaries in battle; Mutual guaranteed Villa 20 percent of the gate when the film was shown.

The studio also threw $10 into the pot, which Director Raoul Walsh sweetened by delivering $500 to Villa, along with uniforms that looked better on camera than the dusty, dirty rags the general and his lieutenants had been wearing.

Unofficially, Villa gave the crew opportunities for retakes when the live action was not up to snuff or when setting up the clumsy cameras had led to missed shots. He even staged some events for the cameras, an important allowance once the crew realized getting real shots of battle was virtual suicide for the cameramen.

> Mutual Film Corporation knew the potential profits of silver screen war.

The movie ended up a docudrama, with newsreel footage spliced in and actors added to flesh out a mythical story of an oppressed Villa forced to take up arms against a cruel government.

The Life of General Villa premiered in New York City on May 9, 1914. Anecdotally the film performed well at U.S. and Canada box offices (the gross take was not well documented at that time). Yet just how much money Villa earned from the venture is unclear.

The film served as the pinnacle of Villa's popularity. By the end of the year, the general's bad deeds caused the U.S. government to cut off aid to him. American public opinion of Villa tanked when his troops attacked Columbus, New Mexico, and killed 18 Americans in 1916.

But for Hollywood, that attack provided a golden opportunity. It took the Villa film, shot other dramatic scenes, recut it and portrayed Villa as the worst man in the world. HBO dramatized the affair to the "nth" degree in 2003's *And Starring Pancho Villa as Himself*.

Ten years later, a collector paid Heritage Auctions $5,000 for the signed five-page movie contract between Mutual Film Corporation and Pancho Villa (see the general's signature from the contract in inset). As for the 1914 movie itself, only a few stills and publicity shots survive.

The Hollywood legend of Villa and Mutual's agreement may still persist, but now you know the real story.

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BY JANA BOMMERSBACH

Studying Villa's Raid

Modern American soldiers tour the battle site to learn its lessons.

"Some woke up and fought back with baseball bats."

Dr. Robert Bouilly

Dr. Robert Bouilly talks to the 745th Forward Surgical Team from Fort Bliss about Pancho Villa's raid on Columbus, New Mexico (inset). He shares how a fire set by the Villistas helped 13th Cavalry troopers aim their machine guns at the enemy and turned the battle into a rout. On March 9, El Paso, Texas, photographer Otis A. Aultman captured the aftermath of that fire in the above photo (see the burned remnants of Peter Lemmon and Ernest Romney's mercantile in foreground and the Commercial Hotel in mid-background)

COURTESY ROBERT BOUILLY

March 9, 1916, started out bad for the 13th Cavalry at Camp Furlong. Ignoring the warning that Mexican Revolution Gen. Pancho Villa was in the area, the soldiers were asleep when 400 to 500 Villistas rode into Columbus, New Mexico, around four that morning.

"They were completely unprepared," U.S. Army Historian Dr. Robert Bouilly says. "Some woke up and fought back with baseball bats."

By the time the soldiers got to their guns, Villistas had killed or wounded 26 Americans, burned down much of the town and stolen about 300 rifles and shotguns, 80 horses and 30 mules—giving Villa supplies for his fight against Mexican President Venustiano Carranza.

Villa did suffer more than 100 casualties, a heavy price—and oh, what was to come after he retreated south of the border?

"What do you get out of the raid?" Dr. Bouilly asks. "You get the Pershing Expedition and the first use of airplanes [and truck convoys] in a combat situation."

The U.S. Army studies this 99-year-old raid as a way to help prepare modern soldiers. For the past 15 years, Dr. Bouilly has developed materials for a "staff ride" made by each noncommissioned officer at the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy at Fort Bliss in El Paso, Texas.

About 500 students a year participate in the three-part ride. "There's the study phase, where they read about the raid; then a walking tour of the battlefield, where there are 12 stations and at each, they have to tell what happened; and the integration, where they report on lessons learned," Dr. Bouilly says.

Most Army bases study historical battlefields to learn from past mistakes. For instance, students at West Point's U.S. Military Academy study the September 17, 1862, Battle of Antietam—the bloodiest one-day battle in American history.

Dr. Bouilly doesn't buy the theory that Villa attacked Columbus to avenge an arms deal gone bad. His research has led him to believe Villa thought the raid would help destroy President Carranza.

"I think he wanted to create an incident where maybe American troops would follow him into Mexico and maybe that would destabilize the presidency," he says.

Villa succeeded in provoking an American invasion, not to depose Carranza, but to go after Villa. Carranza stayed in power as the president of Mexico after a new constitution was proclaimed in 1917.

What lives on is the continued study of Villa's pre-dawn raid by modern American soldiers, who will take the lessons learned into battles fought on behalf of our nation.

Arizona's Journalist of the Year, **Jana Bommersbach** has won an Emmy and two Lifetime Achievement Awards. She also cowrote and appeared on the Emmy-winning *Outrageous Arizona* and has written two true crime books, a children's book and the historical novel *Cattle Kate*.

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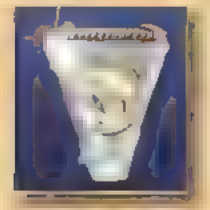

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BY MEGHAN SAAR

Notable Stereoview Lots Included
(some shown as partials)

(All images courtesy Cowan's Auctions)

Dragged to Death

Top-selling stereoviews highlight historical tales, including one of a lariat thrower hanged by his own rope.

Wes Cowan's stereoviews auction included numerous Old West images, with one of the highest bids going to the stereoview of Navajo Frank's hanging in Las Vegas, New Mexico, in 1882, $2,200

The summer after William "Billy the Kid" McCarty cheated his hangman and successfully broke out of jail, killing two guards during his escape, citizens of Las Vegas, New Mexico, encountered a new horror.

They didn't let their man get away this time. The frontier justice they delivered was captured in a stereoview that sold at Cowan's Auctions on March 30, 2015.

Why did the enraged citizens hang this man to a telegraph pole? His name was José Mares, alias Frank Tafoya, better known as Navajo Frank. On June 26, 1882, at about 9:30 p.m. he rode up to R.H. Hunter and wife, who were walking along Main Street, threw a lasso around Hunter and yanked him up the stony road.

After being dragged 100 yards, Hunter found respite only when a hackman pulled his revolver and shot at the outlaw. Navajo Frank cut the lariat from his saddle pommel, releasing his victim, and rode off. Hunter was taken to his home on Sixth Street. He had several cuts on his scalp, a badly bruised face and nose, an indenture in his tongue and a lacerated neck, but no broken bones, he recovered.

Hunter, who had moved from Topeka, Kansas, a year or so before, had never seen or met the desperado, stated Miguel Antonio Otero Jr. in *My Life on the Frontier, 1882-1897*. His assailant, a full-blooded Navajo born on New Mexico's Fort Sumner reservation, was raised by Taos sheepherder Julian Mares before he turned criminal as a rustler and murderer. Otero had known Navajo Frank since 1877, when, in El Moro, Colorado, the bullwhacker killed dance hall girl Jennie Lawrence. This latest "cruel deed," Otero stated, must have been caused by "pure devilment."

Two posses went after Navajo Frank. Officer Harry Franklin and his men found the outlaw at Serafin Polacco's ranch along the Sapello River, about five miles from the city. They brought him to the city at daybreak and threw him in jail.

At midnight, an angry crowd of about 200 townspeople marched to the jail. They battered down the door, shot at the cops to keep them at bay and got the keys for Navajo Frank's cell. The badman fought the mob. Otero described him as a "powerful, heavy-built man with arms like a trip hammer." After repeatedly striking the outlaw with their revolvers, though, the townspeople were able to throw a rope around his neck—the same lariat he had used to drag Hunter down the street.

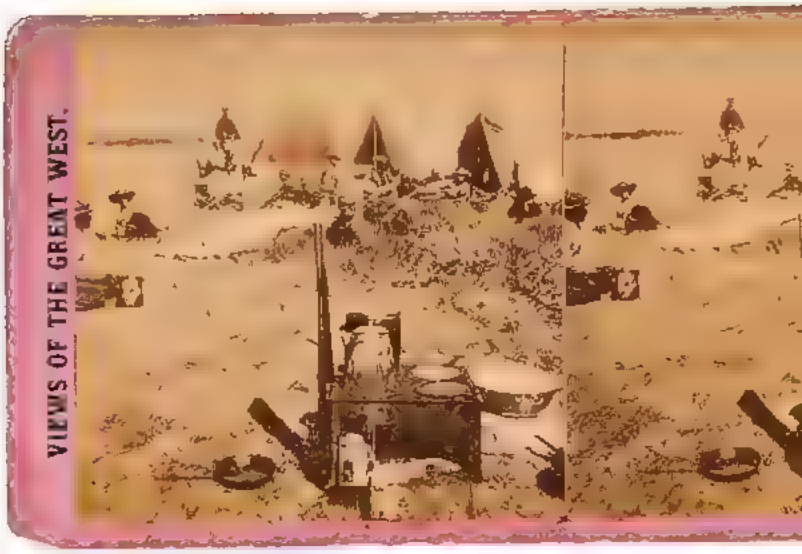
The mob pulled Navajo Frank out of the jail, across the plaza and to a telegraph pole near Railroad Avenue. They tied his noose to the pole's crossbeam, where he hanged, having lassoed his last man.

Navajo Frank's fate lives on in the stereoview that sold for a $2,200 bid, among other stereoviews that also reveal intriguing slices of Old West history.

ARMCHAIR TRAVELERS

A stereoview is a pair of nearly identical two dimensional photos that, when viewed together through a stereoscope (right), creates a three dimensional effect that makes one feel like he is viewing the image in person. This form of photography started in the 1850s and fizzled out by the 1920s. The most successful distributor of stereoviews in the U.S. was Keystone View Company of Meadville, Pennsylvania.

This is one of four stereoviews photographed by C R Savage during O.C. Marsh's hunt for dinosaur bones out West during the 1870s to the 1890s, $1,600.



The life of pioneer hide hunters is conveyed in this view of two buffalo hunters, posing with their long range "Big Fifty" Sharps outside their dugout shelter on the plains of Sheridan, Kansas, circa 1860s 70s; $1,400.

At Fort Lapwai in Idaho Territory, some of Chief Joseph's Nez Perce pose with Presbyterian missionary Henry H Spalding and wife Rachel, circa 1872 74, two stereoviews sold for a $750 bid

One of two stereoviews of Deadwood, Dakota Territory, after the devastating fire of 1879 that destroyed some 300 buildings; $800

Montana photographer L A Huffman captured an 1892 buffalo hunt in this stereoview titled, "Taking the Monster's Robe," $500

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Chasing Villa

The U.S. Cavalry's last campaign on American soil saw a mixture of the old and the new in weaponry and tactics.

"...the work of [your] troops will be regarded as finished as soon as Villa's...bands are ...broken up."

While troops rode into Mexico in pursuit of Pancho Villa's force, American soldiers were stationed all along the U.S.-Mexico border. Here, American G.I.s man Model 1909 Benét-Mercié Machine Rifles, in .30-06 caliber, to discourage further border raids by Villa's banditos.

COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

After Pancho Villa and his bandits raided Columbus, New Mexico, and the troops stationed there on March 9, 1916, Brig. Gen. John "Black Jack" Pershing received orders to: ". . . proceed promptly across the border in pursuit of the Mexican band...the work of [your] troops will be regarded as finished as soon as Villa's band or bands are known to be broken up."

Within six days of the attack, Pershing led about 4,800 troops across the Rio Grande into Mexico to launch what would be an 11-month campaign. A raid into Texas on May 5 further incited President Woodrow Wilson to dispatch the National Guard from Arizona, New Mexico and Texas to seal the border.

The Punitive Expedition was primarily a cavalry operation, with several regiments seeing active service, including the 5th, 7th, 10th, 11th and 13th Cavalries. Accompanying the horse soldiers were two batteries of field artillery, several units of infantry, two companies of engineers and a contingent of Apache scouts. Support units of the Signal, Quartermaster and Medical Corps joined the march.

This expedition marked America's first tactical use of mechanized vehicles and airplanes in war. Out of eight Curtiss "Jenny" biplanes that began the campaign, to provide aerial observation, only two remained in service by the end of the first month. The 1st Aero Squadron ended up field testing airplanes rather than contributing much to locating the enemy.

The automobiles fared better in the harsh Mexican deserts. Both Brig. Gen. Pershing and George S. Patton, then a young lieutenant, traveled in touring cars made by Dodge Brothers (today's Dodge). Villa was apparently so impressed that he obtained his own Dodge Brothers car in 1919.

The U.S. Cavalry's standard issue rifle during the Punitive Expedition was the .30-06 Model 1903 Springfield bolt action, five shot rifle (similar to the one below). Firing a 150-grain spitzer (pointed) bullet at a muzzle velocity of 2,800 feet per second, this powerful smokeless powder rifle was accurate out to several hundred yards.

COURTESY ROCK ISLAND AUCTION COMPANY

The magazine for Colt's Model 1911 held seven rounds, and Punitive Expedition troops generally carried three magazines, attached by a lanyard around the shoulder, so that emptied magazines would not be lost during a fight

COURTESY ROCK ISLAND AUCTION COMPANY

During Pershing's pursuit of Villa, U.S. troops found themselves not only fighting Villa's Villistas and bandit armies, but also the Mexican government *soldados* of President Venustiano Carranza.

The U.S. cavalryman and infantryman were armed with the Model 1903 Springfield, a .30-06 caliber, bolt-action rifle. Their sidearms were the Model 1911 .45 ACP Colt semi-automatic pistol and the Model 1913 Patton saber, although some 1860 and 1906 blades were still in use. They also carried several other small arms, including older Model 1905 and Model 1909 .38 Colt and .45 Colt caliber revolvers, respectively.

During the many mounted pistol charges that marked the expedition, machine gun troops provided deadly support fire from Model 1909 Benét-Mercié Machine Rifles. The 30-06 caliber rifle was particularly suitable for the cavalry, since it was easy to break down for transportation on pack animals.

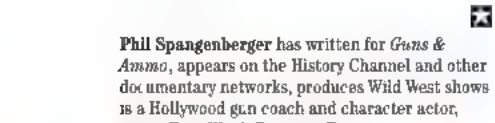
At least one 1873 Colt Single Action Army revolver was not only carried, but also used successfully, by Lt. Patton, in his daring shoot-out against three of Villa's lieutenants on May 14, 1916. This Peacemaker helped kill the bandits and went on to be packed by Gen. Patton in WWII.

In early April 1916, 13th Cavalry Maj. Frank Tompkins led roughly 100 troops deep into Mexican territory where, riding with full equipment, they covered 85 miles in 50 hours (see his troops above). Several days later, they fought a running withdrawal with about 550 Mexican Carrancistas, losing just two men with another six wounded, including Tompkins, before they were reinforced by 10th Cavalry Buffalo Soldiers.

COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

While Pershing's troops made numerous contacts with the Villistas, killing two generals and some 160 men, the U.S. campaign failed in its major objectives—stopping border raids and capturing Villa.

The campaign did, however, succeed in bringing new concepts to the mode of warfare for the U.S. Army, while serving as a training ground for its entry into WWI



Phil Spangenberger has written for *Guns & Ammo*, appears on the History Channel and other documentary networks, produces Wild West shows is a Hollywood gun coach and character actor, and is *True West's* Firearms Editor.

1911 PISTOL CLONES

The first Model 1911 pistols issued to Brig. Gen. John "Black Jack" Pershing's troops who rode through Mexico after Pancho Villa were blued, rather than parkerized, like later military issues, including the 1911-A1. With collector value of genuine 1911s soaring into the four- and five-figure market, modern-made clones of the .45 ACP semi-automatics are a boon to cowboy action competitors and 1916 cavalry re-enactors. Colt offers its O1991 Government Model, virtually identical to the original, while Cimarron Fire Arms (shown) and Taylor's & Co. each offer top-quality import replicas of the famed early-20th-century warhorse.

Colt.com / TaylorsFirearms.com / Cimarron-FireArms.com

PANCHO IN

BY THE EDITORS
WITH ADDITIONAL REPORTING BY CAMERON DOUGLAS

Born a peasant, head of his family at an early age and an outlaw by 17, Doroteo Arango—a.k.a. Pancho Villa—rose from the lowest rungs of the social ladder to become one of Mexico's greatest military chieftains. He commanded thousands of men and outmaneuvered and eluded more than 10,000 Americans led by John "Black Jack" Pershing. A friend of the poor, he was the He-Man hero in the Mexican tradition of machismo—overpowering, dominant and larger than life. This is his story in photographs.

5 Lion of the North

Dubbed "Lion of the North," in American newspapers while Mexican periodicals called him *Centauro del Norte*—Centaur of the North, Pancho Villa's nickname derived from his role as commander of *División del Norte*, the armed faction formed by Francisco Madero. After Madero's assassination on February 22, 1913, Villa assumed leadership

TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

PICTURES

VILLA
ALA EDAD
DE 22 AÑO

6 The Outlaw Doroteo Arango

Although Pancho Villa is associated strongly with the state of Chihuahua, he was actually born in the state of Durango, on June 5, 1878. His first years were rough. His father died when Villa was a child, and his mother expected her eldest son to support her and his four siblings. At the age of 16, he defended his mother and sister against the *hacendado*, owner of the hacienda, López Negrete, by shooting him in the foot. He fled to avoid arrest, and began his life as an outlaw. At that time, he changed his name to Francisco Villa. Some think he got the name from a notorious bandit, although Villa wrote in his memoirs that his father, Agustín, was the illegitimate son of a wealthy man called Jesús Villa, and that he simply took his grandfather's name. Several brushes with the law landed him in Mexican dictator Porfirio Díaz's federal army (not by choice) in 1902, and he deserted that same year. More crime led him to leave Durango and cross into Chihuahua, where he settled into the border town of Parral.

COURTESY CHET & LINDY DOWNS

7 A Bandit Turns Revolutionary

Appointed the provisional governor of the state of Chihuahua by Francisco Madero in October 1910, Abraham González sought out Villa to help overthrow Díaz. The mentor may have promised Villa amnesty for his recent crimes (see p. 4). On November 20, 1910, at a small ranch called La Cueva Pinta, in the mountains, not far from the city of Chihuahua, a group of armed men sat around the campfire and voted in their military leaders. They elected Villa to lead 28 men, his first assignment in the history of the Mexican Revolution.

COURTESY CHET & LINDY DOWNS

8 A Bitter Turn

Commanding the army for Francisco Madero (5), Pascual Orozco (9) and Pancho Villa (10) won the first Battle of Ciudad Juárez in May 1911. Later charged with insubordination by Gen. Victoriano Huerta, Villa was imprisoned by the very president he helped place in power. On Christmas day 1912, he escaped

COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

9 Ice Cream for the Victors

After Gens. Villa and Orozco captured Ciudad Juárez on May 10, 1911, they enjoyed some ice cream at the Elite Confectionary in El Paso, Texas (the hat- less Orozco is seated across from Villa, who holds his hat on his knees). As a result of the 1911 battle, Dictator Porfirio Díaz was forced to resign on May 25

TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

10 Peace Comes to Mexico?

(From left) Revolutionary leader Pascual Orozco, Porfirio Díaz representative Oscar Braniff, Gen. Pancho Villa and Lt. Col. Giuseppe Garibaldi II pose together during peace negotiations with the Díaz government. Their treaty led the Associated Press to declare the "Mexican revolution is over" in its November 1, 1911, bulletin.

COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

11 Ready for His Close-Up

Villa was a willing accomplice in the Mutual Film Corporation's desire to further militarize his image for the 1914 silent film *The Life of General Villa*, shot on location during the Mexican Revolution. When the producers felt that his normal dress, a slouch hat and sweater, were too mundane, they gave him a uniform to wear (see below). American filmmakers believed the uniform would lend more authority to the Mexican general

TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

12 The Governor's Crew

When Pancho Villa (third from right) became provisional governor of Chihuahua in 1913, he recruited a staff that included his bodyguard, Rodolfo Fierro (on Villa's right), Gen. Toribio Ortega (on Villa's left) and Chief of Staff Juan Medina (on Ortega's left).

COURTESY NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

13 Pancho's Mentor Falls

Because of Abraham González, Pancho Villa became convinced that he could "...free [Mexico] from the snakes that were devouring her entrails." Here, Villa is one of the pallbearers carrying Gonzalez's coffin through the city of Chihuahua. Victoriano Huerta ordered Gonzalez's assassination on March 7, 1913, which allegedly deepened the hatred between Mexico's new president and Villa, further fueling Villa's desire to overthrow Huerta's brutal regime

COURTESY J. PAUL GETTY TRUST

14 Fighting the Good Fight

Manuel Banda was in charge of making Pancho Villa's soldiers fight ..at the point of a gun. Recalling his patrols behind the lines, he said, "I have killed many In some battles, I may have killed as many of our men as the federal troops have done."

COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

15 Passing the Time

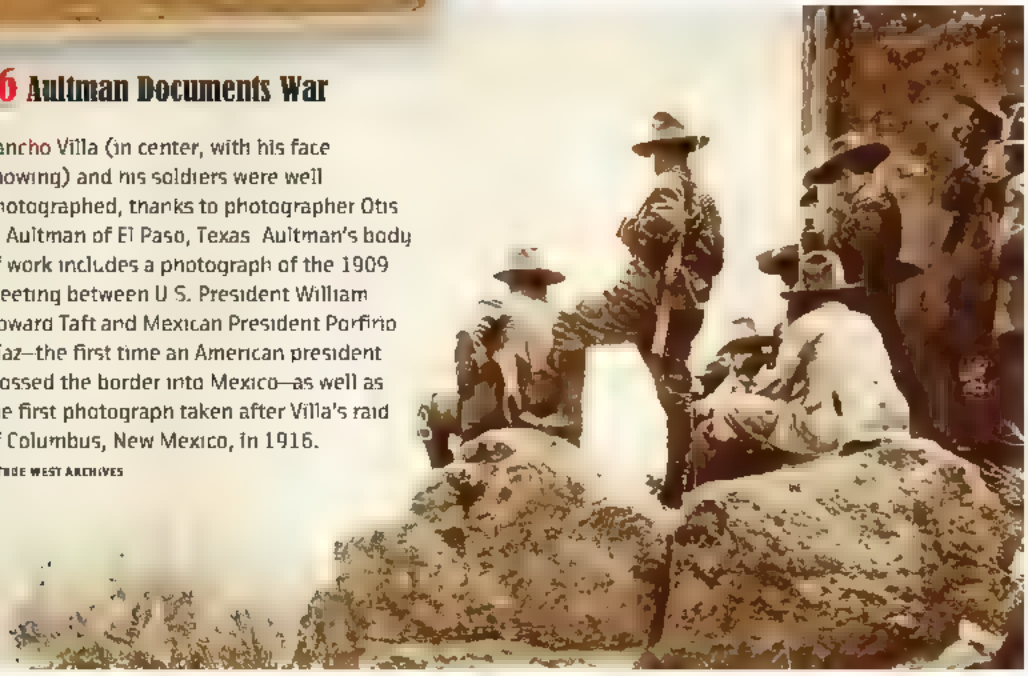
Sent to Mexico in the autumn of 1913, *Metropolitan Magazine* correspondent John Reed asked Villa's soldiers why they were fighting. They told him: for freedom One soldier asked Reed if the U.S. was in a war When Reed answered no, the soldier replied, "How do you pass the time, then...?"

COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

16 Aultman Documents War

Pancho Villa (in center, with his face showing) and his soldiers were well photographed, thanks to photographer Otis A. Aultman of El Paso, Texas Aultman's body of work includes a photograph of the 1909 meeting between U S. President William Howard Taft and Mexican President Porfirio Díaz—the first time an American president crossed the border into Mexico—as well as the first photograph taken after Villa's raid of Columbus, New Mexico, in 1916.

TRUE WEST ARCHIVES



17 Vanished

Legend has it that writer Ambrose Bierce (inset) was on a mission to meet Pancho Villa (at right, by cannon) to report on the Mexican Revolution in Ojinaga, Chihuahua (see below), when he crossed into Mexico in 1913 at the age of 71. His last correspondence was dated December 26, 1913, mailed from the city of Chihuahua. He was never heard from again

COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

18 The Taking of Ojinaga

After the Battle of Ojinaga ended on January 10, 1914, Pancho Villa (second from left) celebrated with his bodyguard and executioner, Rodolfo Fierro (third from right), and Francisco Madero's younger brother, Raul (at far right). The taking of Ojinaga marked the beginning of the end for Victoriano Huerta's federal army. Fierro, nicknamed *El Carnicero* (the butcher), allegedly once shot an innocent passerby to settle a bet that a man would fall forward when shot. Fierro won that argument

COURTESY WHEELAN COLLECTION, COSHING MEMORIAL LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

19-20 The Passing Parade

In 1914, on the Mexican holiday of independence, September 16, Álvaro Obregón watched Pancho Villa show off his military might. Villa is shown here, with other dignitanes, on the steps of the Federal Palace of Chihuahua (now Museo Casa Chihuahua), surveying his parading troops. After Villa and Obregón had worked together to successfully overthrow President Victoriano Huerta that July, Obregón was trying to ensure Pancho Villa's allegiance to Venustiano Carranza. But Villa still broke away, calling Carranza a dictator, and he even threatened to execute Obregón.

COURTESY WHEELAN COLLECTION, CUSHING MEMORIAL LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

21 A Woman of Substance

Gen. Francisco "Pancho" Villa with his first, but not only, wife Luz Corral, whom he married in 1911. Despite Villa's numerous marriages and relationships, Corral converted the mansion she had shared with him into a museum of tribute to her husband

TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

22 The Eyes Have It

From U.S. Military Intelligence gathered from an American doctor who knew Villa "He has the most remarkable pair of prominent brown eyes I have ever seen. They seem to look through you; he talks with them, and all of his expressions are heralded and dominated by them first...."

COURTESY LEON METZ

23 No Confession for Pancho

The marriage of Luz Corral and Pancho Villa was held in the Catholic Church of San Andrés in the state of Chihuahua. When asked by the priest if he wanted to be confessed before the ceremony, Villa replied that it would take too long

COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

24 A Long Way from Home

On December 6, 1914, Pancho Villa entered Mexico City in full military uniform, which may be the costume Hollywood had him wear for the film *The Life of General Villa*. Behind the buglers, from left, are eventual President of Mexico Gen. Abelardo L. Rodríguez, Gen. Tomás Urbina, Gen. Emiliano Zapata (wearing a sombrero), Gen. Pancho Villa and Villa's infamous butcherer Rodolfo Fierro. Whereas Villa commanded revolutionary forces in northern Mexico, Zapata commanded those in the South. Both leaders eventually went down in flames: In 1919, Zapata was assassinated, while Villa suffered the same fate in 1923.

COURTESY CHET & LINDY DOWNS

25 The Seat of Power

When the two icons posed in the presidential palace in Mexico City, Pancho Villa sat in the president's chair, but only because Emiliano Zapata (to his left) refused. The two men, by all accounts, got along famously. To show his good faith, Villa once choked down a large glass of cognac Zapata offered him, even though he usually didn't drink alcohol.

TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

26 Places, Please!

Shown in the foreground of this 1914 movie still, Pancho Villa, on the second horse, poses with his Villistas. "Villa's greatest asset is his personality. As a former outlaw and bandit, who successfully stood his ground against Porfino Diaz' *[sic]* soldiers and *rurales* for over ten years, Villa is idolized by all the lower classes of Mexico," newspaperman Edwin Emerson reported. He pointed out that Villa was a "splendid rider," a talent "all Mexicans set great store by," and that he was a "dead shot." Whenever Villa was interviewed by the press, Emerson added, "he always makes it a point to lay stress on the fact that he is a simple, uneducated, unlettered man who never has had any advantages of culture."

COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

27 Born to Be Wild

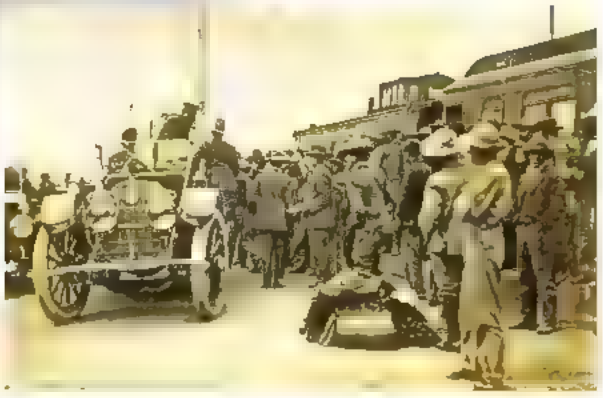
Pancho Villa poses with an Indian motorcycle. The Mexican Revolution was, in many ways, the warm-up act for WWI, as it featured new military weapons, including airplanes, trucks, machine guns and motorcycles.

TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

28 A New Ride

Just like Gen. John "Black Jack" Pershing and his U.S. officers sometimes got around in Dodge Brothers touring cars, Pancho Villa also rode automobiles to various sites during the Mexican Revolution. Here, he rides in the back seat with Rodolfo Fierro to his right.

COURTESY WHEELAN COLLECTION, CUSHING MEMORIAL LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY



29 King of the Rails

Once Pancho Villa had complete control of Chihuahua by the beginning of 1914, he also brought his army a great deal of mobility and interrupted rail arteries where the federal army usually sent reinforcements. The leader is shown departing his car at the Chihuahua railroad station in this circa 1914 photograph.

COURTESY WHEELAN COLLECTION, CUSHING MEMORIAL LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

30 Future Opponents

Before becoming adversaries, Mexican Gens. Álvaro Obregón and Pancho Villa, and American Gen. John Pershing (from left) met in 1914 on the International Bridge between El Paso, Texas, and Ciudad Juárez in Mexico.

TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

31 Dealing with the Americans

Pancho Villa believed U.S. President Woodrow Wilson to be on his side, perhaps mostly because of U.S. Gen. Hugh Scott (see the two walking down the steps together). Scott may have been the perfect emissary, given his long history dealing with American Indian leaders. Professing to be deeply impressed with Villa's military tactics, particularly his cavalry charges, Scott earned Villa's admiration as well.

TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

32 Take Two

Many of the Mutual Film takes were later reshot using a Hollywood set because the original content was "unbelievable." That, more than a century later, we get to see photographs of a real battle underway is unbelievable.

COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

33 World Famous

With the possible exceptions of Moctezuma and Benito Juárez, Pancho Villa is perhaps the best known Mexican personality in the world. Hollywood loves him and has made many movies that are either directly about him or thinly disguised versions of his life (see p. 56). What is generally not known about Villa is that, in 1914, Americans considered him an ally who helped protect their business interests.

COURTESY WHEELAN COLLECTION, CUSHING MEMORIAL LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

34-35 Waiting to Surrender

In 1920, after almost 10 years of fighting, Pancho Villa sent a telegram to President Victoriano Huerta requesting amnesty. Huerta agreed and gave Villa a huge hacienda, plus pensions for him and 200 of his soldiers. Pancho became the very thing he had fought to eradicate: a rich *hacendado*.

COURTESY J. PAUL GETTY TRUST

36 Amnesty Achieved

When amnesty secured a hacienda at Canutillo that had 163,000 acres, Pancho Villa built a school. "Schools are what Mexico needs above everything else," the former rebel general told an American newspaper in 1921. "If I was at the head of things, I would put plenty of schools in the cities and towns and besides, I'd put a school on every *hacienda* and ranch."

TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

37 A Father's Hope

When he settled down from fighting the revolution, Pancho Villa gathered as many of his children as he could on his ranch in Canutillo. Here, he rides in Parral with his eldest son, Agustín, whom he deigned would become a doctor. "I have great hopes for my children," he proudly said, claiming the only thing his brood lacked was "culture," which he planned to secure by sending his children to schools in France, Spain or Germany.

COURTESY CHET & LINDY BOWNS

38 A Master Horseman

Pancho Villa is shown here astride his favorite horse, Seven Leagues. A traditional Mexican Revolution corrido, "El Siete Leguas," honored this horse.

TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

39 Head Gear

Pancho Villa was often shown in the U.S. papers with his iconic pith helmet (see left), although few photographs show him wearing the helmet during military action.

TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

40 The Pause that Refreshed

Not one to imbibe alcohol, Pancho Villa looks to be drinking milk as he waits for his soldiers to board the train. When he had no food to feed his troops, he was known to secure milk to revive his men.

TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

41 Waiting on the Trains

Victoriano Huerta's federal troops were heavily dependent on Mexican rail to remain mobile, making the long stretches of track an easy target for Villa and his soldiers. After Villa came to power, he also relied on the immense rail system in his military campaigns; he once moved his entire 16,000- strong División del Norte south by rail.

COURTESY UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA RIVERSIDE LIBRARY

42 The Persuader

Pancho Villa convinced many peons to fight for his cause because they were being paid only five centavos a day on the haciendas. Another reason Villa was so successful in raising an army is because, when he captured federal army soldiers, he often gave them the choice of joining his forces or being shot. Most had been pressed into the federal army against their will, and with the promise of better pay, they almost always joined the fight, and never went back.

TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

VILLA'S MAJOR BATTLES

First Battle of Ciudad Juárez (1911 won)

Second Battle of Ciudad Juárez (1913 won)

Battle of Tierra Blanca (1913 won)

Battle of Chihuahua (1913 won)

Battle of Ojinaga (1914 won)

Second Battle of Torreón (1914 won)

Battle of Gómez Palacio (1914 won)

Battle of Saltillo (1914 won)

Battle of Zacatecas (1914 won)

Battle of Celaya (1915 lost)

Battle of Trinidad (1915 lost)

Second Battle of Agua Prieta (1915 lost)

Battle of Columbus (1916 won)

Battle of Guerrero (1916 lost)

Second Battle of Parral (1918 won)

Third Battle of Ciudad Juárez (1919 lost)

Siege of Durango (1919 lost)

43 Quinta Luz

Despite Pancho Villa's many claims that he never enriched himself through his campaigns, he did acquire quite a bit of property. None is more famous than his mansion in Chihuahua City, where he can be seen in this photo, standing on the steps of the porch. His first wife, Luz Corral, kept the mansion as a museum until her death in 1981. It remains a museum to this day, where you can see his saddles, armory and even his death vehicle.

COURTESY TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

44 Lured to His Death

On July 20, 1923, Pancho Villa was assassinated while visiting Parral. No one knows why Villa entered town without his bodyguards. On his return through the city, a man saluted Villa's car, shouting "Viva Villa!" This was allegedly a signal to the seven to nine assassins who had been waiting in an apartment. They opened fire and bombarded the car with more than 40 shots.

TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

45 A Bullet-Riddled Corpse

In the hailstorm of fire that ensued, nine dumdum bullets, early hollow points, hit Pancho Villa in the head and upper chest, killing him instantly.

COURTESY CHET & LINDY DOWNS

46 Pancho Villa, the Lightning Rod

A Mexican saying at the time sums up his popularity best. Pancho Villa was "hated by thousands, but beloved by millions." Strangely, he was shunned in his own country with nary a statue or monument to his life, yet, in 1981, Mexicans marched across the Rio Grande to give the U.S. a gift of a statue of Villa, which, today, stands in Tucson, Arizona. The divisive icon became a lightning rod to promote good relations between the two countries.

COURTESY CHET & LINDY BOWNS

True West Exclusive

Classic Gunfights

Patton's First Two Notches

George S. Patton & Co. vs Julio Cárdenas & Co.

"An officer should be able to use all arms."

Against regulations, George S. Patton (above) grabs mementos of his battle: Cárdenas's silver studded saddle, sword, pistol and spurs.

ALL IMAGES COURTESY CHARLES LEMONS. GENERAL GEORGE PATTON MUSEUM IN FT. KNOX, KENTUCKY, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

BY MARK BOARDMAN

Maps & Graphics by Gus Walker

Based on the research of Carlo D'Este and Charles Lemons

This Classic Classic Gunfights first appeared in our September 2009 issue

MAY 14, 1916

Second Lt. George S. Patton and his force, riding in Dodge Brothers touring autos, approach the San Miguelito Ranch from the south, appropriately at high noon. They are part of the U.S. Army expedition hunting Mexican Revolution Gen. Pancho Villa.

Patton positions two carloads—eight soldiers and a guide—at the southern wall around the hacienda and its two gates. He and the remaining two soldiers and a gude park their car northwest of the compound. They make their way east along the low north wall, heading toward the big arch of the main gate.

Patton carries a rifle in his left hand, with his right on the pistol butt at his hip. He is almost at the gate when three horsemen dash out of the hacienda into the courtyard and head southeast. They run right into the Americans stationed there.

The Mexicans immediately wheel around and charge toward Patton. Bullets whiz past the lieutenant as he pulls his Colt single action from its holster and returns fire.

One bullet breaks the left arm of the lead rider, who is later identified as Capt. Julio Cárdenas, a close aide to Villa. Another shot takes down his horse. The wounded man scrambles for cover as Patton retreats to a wall to reload. The other two Mexican riders split up, trying to escape.

Patton sees one of them go by and shoots the horse in the hip, knocking down the mount and the soldier. In an act of chivalry, the American waits for the Mexican to extricate himself, stand up and pull his weapon—only then does Patton (and a couple of his men) shoot and kill him.

The third Villista has almost made good his escape, riding hard some 100 yards east of the hacienda. Patton holsters his pistol and aims his rifle. He and several of his command open up. The Mexican falls dead in the dust.

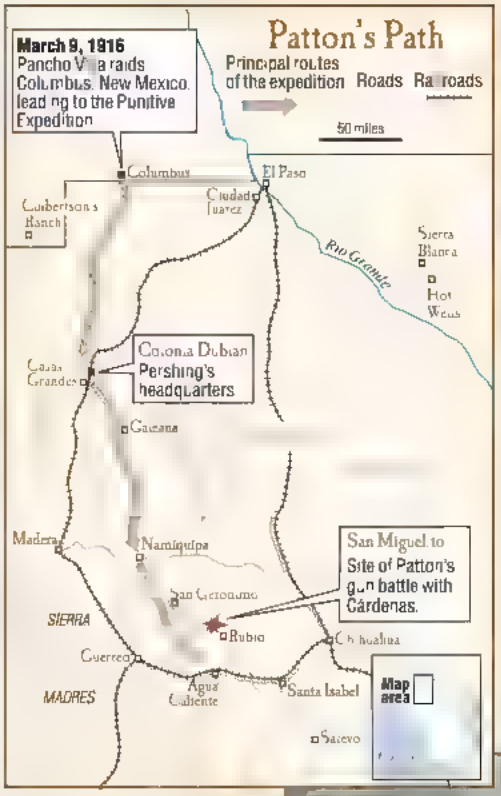
Meanwhile, in the confusion, Cárdenas has exited on foot through the southwest gate and is running for some fields. One of Patton's gudes, an ex-Villista named E.L. Holmdahl, catches up with the wounded man, who falls to the ground and puts up his good, right arm in a sign of surrender.

Holmdahl approaches Cárdenas with a drawn revolver to take the Mexican into custody. Cárdenas drops his hand and pulls his pistol. His shot misses. Holmdahl puts a bullet in the captain's head.

George S. Patton has had his first experience in combat, and he loves it.

The 8th Gun Cavalry conducts a practice charge in 1916, during the Punitive Expedition led into Mexico by Gen. John Pershing, aided by George S. Patton, to capture Pancho Villa

TRUE WEST ARCHIVES



In 1916, border tension incites violence among Americans and Mexicans. (See above photo of Ketelsen & Degetau, a bank- turned weapons facility, burning in Ciudad Juárez in the Mexican state of Chihuahua.) On March 9, Pancho Villa raids Columbus, New Mexico, which starts Patton on his path to San Miguelito Ranch near Rubio, Chihuahua, in May

TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

Patton's Colt M1873 is shown here, with the original bullets from his belt. Patton carved two notches in the handle of his Colt (see inset): one for Cárdenas, and one for the other Mexican Patton took down with his pistol.

47 Villa stands surrounded by Villistas on the Veracruz front

COURTESY GETTY TRUST

48 Villa wears his pearl- handled Bisley Model single- action Colt. Villa, who suffers from chronic arthritis, favors the Bisley's larger hammer for ease of use

COURTESY LEE SILVA, GREG AND JENNIFER SILVA MEMORIAL OLD WEST ARCHIVES

Aftermath: Odds & Ends

George S. Patton and his men strapped the bodies onto the hoods of their cars. As they finished, 50 mounted Villistas approached, firing. Patton and company hightailed it north to headquarters.

The sight of the corpses, which had bloated in the hot sun, horrified John Pershing. He ordered graves dug on the spot. A sergeant reportedly commented: "Ashes to ashes, dust to dust, / If Villa won't bury you, Uncle Sam must."

Nine days after the shoot-out, Patton, dubbed "Bandit" by his general, was promoted to first lieutenant. A year later, he was made a captain.

When asked why he intentionally shot the horses, Patton explained that Texas Ranger Dave Allison—whom he had befriended a few months earlier in El Paso—advised him to do just that if he got into a fight with cavalry.

The Julio Cárdenas shoot-out garnered international headlines; the ego-driven Patton loved that papers dubbed him the "Bandit Killer." The acclaim paved the way for him to accompany Pershing to Europe the next year in WWI.

Pershing and Patton's younger sister, Nita, were briefly engaged, but the relationship fell apart at the end of WWI.

Patton made his mark in WWII, as a general in North Africa, Sicily and Europe.

Patton's initiation into combat is the first battle in which American troops use motorized vehicles.

LITTLE-KNOWN CHARACTERS OF THE OLD WEST

TOM AUGHERTON

Señora Doña María Luz Corral de Villa

PANCHO VILLA'S WIDOW HAD A LIFE OF FAME AND MARTYRDOM.

Even though Pancho Villa was killed in 1923, his widow, Señora doña Maria Luz Corral de Villa, celebrated her husband's legacy—and her own celebrity—with a Villa museum at her 50-room mansion in Chihuahua City until her death in 1981. Ironically, today the Mexican military owns the property and the Historical Museum of the Revolution.

PHOTOS COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

DOÑA LUZ wasn't the only woman in his life, nor even the only woman who claimed to be his wife. But the striking blue-eyed peasant woman was the first wife to the Mexican Revolution general, making her certificate of marriage the most valid, out of all the women Pancho Villa later married. More important, she carried a lifelong wound of burying their infant daughter, Luz Elena, while he fathered children with other women, leaving her to raise many of them as her own.

The marriage certificate dated May 29, 1911, was more than just a symbol of pride for Doña Luz Corral, it became the first chapter of her life story which began on July 2, 1892. She was a living witness to what has been called "the storm that swept Mexico" in modern literature.

The Mexican Revolution was a sweeping panoply of brutal battles, criminal adventure and treacherous savagery. The Mutual Film Corporation paid Gen. Villa 20 percent of ticket sales to become Hollywood's first revolutionary star of the newsreels.

But it was Doña Luz, whom he first saw when she was 18 in the village of

> She was a living witness to what has been called the "storm that swept Mexico"....

San Andrés, who earned the role of Madre and matriarch. The courtship was short, contrary to her mother's wishes, and it left Father Juan de Dios Muñoz aghast. After he asked the 32-year-old man to make his church confession, José Doroteo Arango Arámbula, the son of a sharecropper, reborn as Gen. Francisco (Pancho) Villa, responded that it would take days to list the sins on his soul.

In 1923, Villa was assassinated in his Dodge Brothers touring car in Parral, Chihuahua, leaving 31-year-old Mrs. Villa a widow—and with an orphanage on their property of some 50 children of all ages. Her life as the wife of the revolutionary was shattered, but she was a survivor

Even though the government took the Villa Ranch near Canutillo, Durango, from Doña Luz for back taxes, they did not take the Villas' 50-room mansion in Chihuahua City. For six decades Villa's celebrity widow welcomed a stream of strangers and curiosity-seekers to La Casa de Villa, or Historical Museum of the Revolution, which was filled with artifacts of her dead husband.

For the equivalent of 25 cents, she provided an autograph, recited speeches in English while consulting an old notebook, and permitted visitors to examine remnants of the Mexican Revolution: Villa's photographs, weapons, saddles and uniforms, and even his bullet-ridden car in which he was assassinated. Near the end of her life, Luz received visitors from bed, too weak to rise. She died at age 89 on July 6, 1981.

"Oh, I have no family of my own," she told the *El Paso Times* in 1977, "but I have many families."

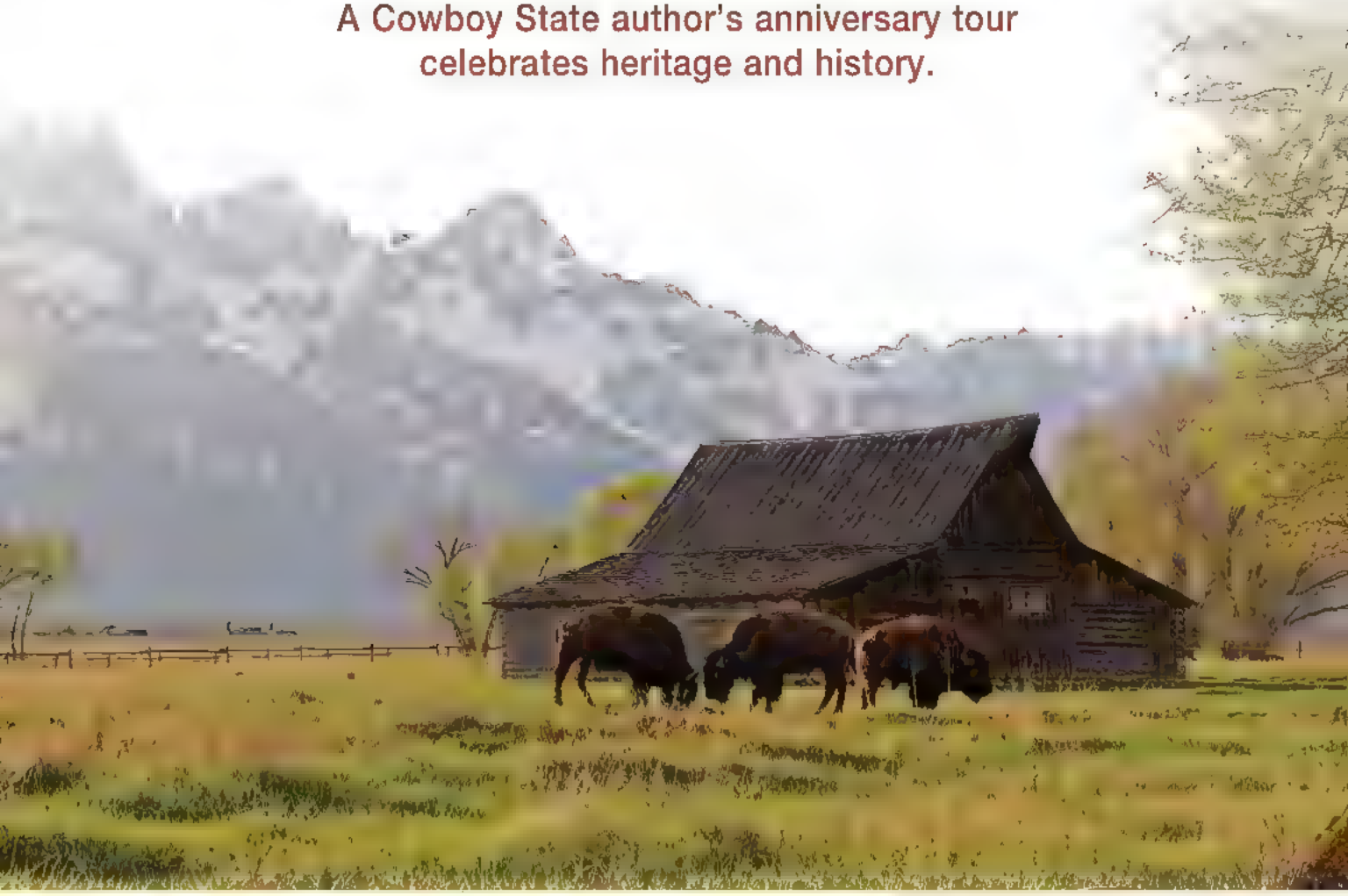
Tom Augherton is an Arizona-based freelance writer. He recommends Luz Villa's autobiography *Pancho Villa. In Intimacy* (Chihuahua, Centro Librero Las Prensa, 1981). He also suggests visitors to modern Chihuahua City tour the Historical Museum of the Revolution, also known as Quinta Luz, to see Doña Luz's great Villa collection.

49 Despite the fact that Pancho Villa's exuberant machismo claimed at least 26 women as his "wife" during his turbulent lifetime, his widow Luz Corral remained dedicated to perpetuating her husband's role as a modern-day martyr of the Mexican poor

BY CANDY MOULTON

WYOMING AT 125: STILL BUCKING

A Cowboy State author's anniversary tour celebrates heritage and history.



Called the most photographed barn in America, the T A. Moulton barn has become an icon of Jackson Hole. The barn was built by Moulton and his sons, Clark and Harley, and used for the family ranching operation from 1912 to 1960, when the property was sold to Grand Teton National Park.

CANDY MOULTON

Those of us who are Wyoming-born residents relish the fact that we live in the least-populated state in the nation. As our former governor Mike Sullivan often said, we are a medium-sized city with really long streets. We have far more antelope, deer and elk than people, and quite honestly, we really like it that way We have a lot of slogans: The Equality State (for being the first to grant women suffrage, having the first woman justice of the peace); the Cowboy State (lots of reasons for this one, but it's symbolized by our license plates, which have the iconic bucking horse and rider that is recognized worldwide); and more recently, Forever West (a tagline from the state tourism office)

We have Magic City of the Plains or Live the Legend (Cheyenne), Gem City of the Plains (Laramie), Where the Trout Leap in Main Street (Saratoga) ..I could go on. But instead let me celebrate the 125th anniversary of Wyoming by taking you

Let me celebrate the 125th anniversary of Wyoming by taking you on a little journey.

on a little journey to some of my favorite places (only some, mind you, I love this state and know it well, more than half the books I've written have in some way or another focused on its history).

Cheyenne to Encampment

The television show *Hell on Wheels* spent the last season in Cheyenne, and while much of the action might have been reflective of the railroad-building days that gave birth to this city, the TV show obviously got the landscape wrong. On the screen you would see Cheyenne surrounded by hills. In reality it is truly a plains town with rolling grasslands all around. Most of the trees are those that were intentionally planted. Cheyenne's birth as a railroad town is reflected in the downtown area where the restored Union Pacific Depot serves as a vibrant hub for visitor activities. The railroad gave Cheyenne a start, but it was government—territorial and then state—as well as cattlemen who gave it permanence.

During the heyday of the big range era in Wyoming, the wealthiest cattlemen had homes in Cheyenne. Many of those homes remain today, including the Nagle-Warren Mansion, now a bed-and-breakfast. Restored and operated by Jim Osterfoss, this is a pla ce for high tea, reading a book in the well-appointed library or relaxing in one of the guest rooms.

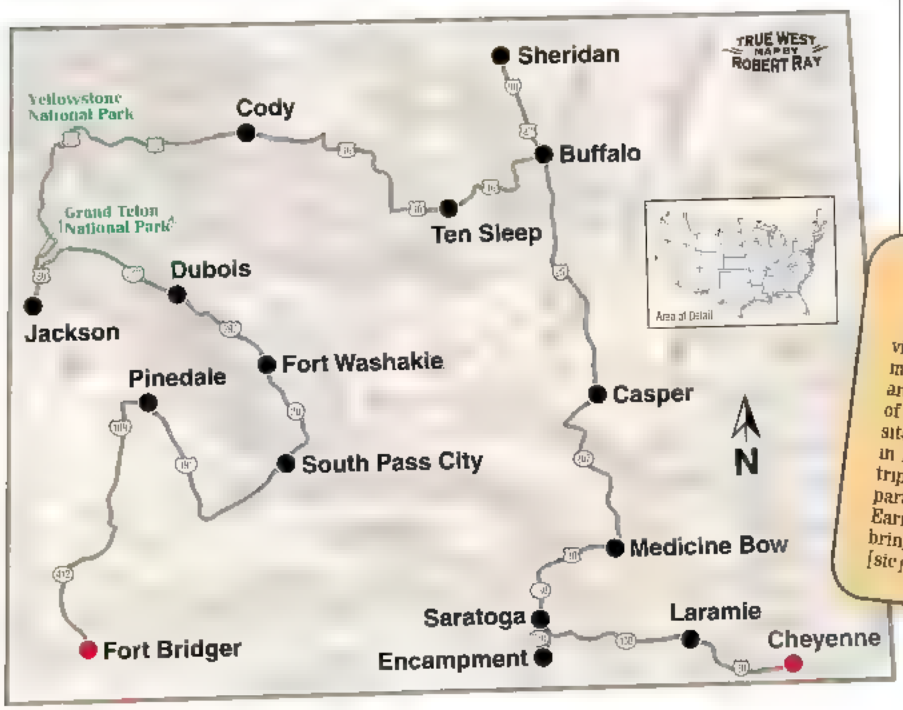
History abounds in Cheyenne and you can view some of the best examples at the Wyoming State Museum, the Old West Museum and the Nelson Museum of the West. If you plan ahead, by all means visit Cheyenne the last 10 days of July for the Cheyenne Frontier Days, one of the top rodeos in the world. Billed as The Daddy of 'em All®, CFD has daily rodeos featuring the top stock and competitors in the sport; night shows with Toby Keith, Miranda Lambert, Alabama, Keith Urban, Blake Shelton and more, four parades with dozens of horse-drawn vehicles, three big free pancake breakfasts; and daily dancing performances by American Indians — usually including the Arapaho and Shoshone tribes, who still make their home in Wyoming.

Dancers from the Wind River Reservation take part in activities at the Indian Village, a regular attraction at Cheyenne Frontier Days

CANDY MOULTON

It's time to hit the road, so I head west on I-80 (or take Happy Jack Road, WY 210) to Laramie, home of the University of Wyoming, The Ivinson Mansion, and the Wyoming Frontier Prison. Wyoming's quasquicentennial really kicks off in Laramie in mid-June when the Wyoming State Historical Society sponsors a symposium that will explore all facets of the state's history.

The Snowy Range Mountains beckon to the west, so cross them and head to my home stomping ground for the Grand Encampment Cowboy Gathering (July 17-19), this year featuring The Munsick Boys, Sam Platts and Kootenai Three, and Thatch Elmer. There is one concert for which you'll need to buy a ticket, but all the other music and poetry entertainment

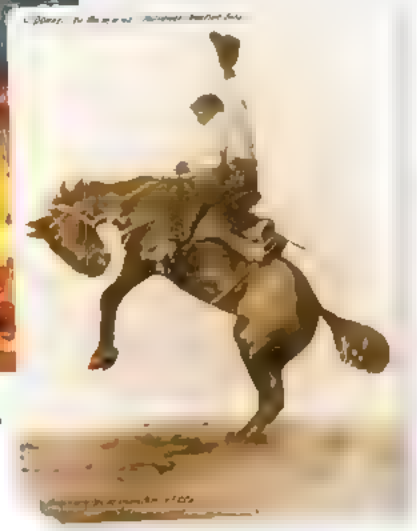


Historical Marker

The ruts of the Overland Trail are plainly visible cutting across sagebrush about a dozen miles north of Saratoga. The trail runs parallel to and south of Interstate 80. Just nine miles west of the historical marker along Highway 130 is the site of Edward Bennett's Ferry, which he started in 1866 to serve the trail traffic, charging $5 for a trip across the river. Frontiersman and sometime partner to Bennett, Napoleon Bonaparte "Boney" Earnest said, "We'd take two wagons west and bring back two agoing east and we caught em [sic] agoing and acoming."

Cowboy singers and poets gather around the campfire at the Grand Encampment Cowboy Gathering, one of many free events at the annual event held the third weekend in July

CANDY MOULTON



Saddle bronc riding has been a staple of Cheyenne Frontier Days since the very first show in 1896. In 1910, a cowboy named O'Donnell took Whirlwind for a spectacular ride

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is free. The event also recognizes of some of the newest members of the Wyoming Cowboy Hall of Fame, which began last year with induction of the first 34 members.

From Encampment, point your wagon tongue north (I had to use that metaphor since I love traveling anywhere in Wyoming, but most particularly by mule-drawn wagon.) Okay, I get it, you have a vehicle, so you can simply drive a faster vehicle to Saratoga where you will find historic lodging and fine food at the Hotel Wolf, and can soak in the mineral hot springs at the Saratoga Hobo Pool which is open year-round.

Medicine Bow to Buffalo

The Eastern dude Owen Wister wrote that Medicine Bow (on U.S. 30) appeared to be "strewn by the wind," and if you visit today, you might think he had it right. The Virginian Hotel anchors the town, and just across the street you can explore the Medicine Bow Museum, housed in the former railroad depot. Take Highway 487 from Bow to Casper for a visit to Fort Caspar and the National Historic Trails Interpretive Center. Both places will inform you about the importance of this location for overland travelers, the frontier military and the Indian tribes of the region.

Both ranch and Indian history dominate the region north of Casper. In the 1860s Red Cloud and the Lakotas, along with

Devils Tower, established as the first national monument in 1906, has been called many things. Among the Lakota and other tribes who have connections to the site, it is Mato Tipila or Bear Lodge, but it also has known as Bear's Tipi, Home of the Bear and Tree Rock. The name Devils Tower comes from the explorations of Col. Richard Dodge in 1875.

COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

their Cheyenne and Arapaho allies, fought to retain the Powder River Basin as traditional lands, first deterring gold-seekers who followed the Bozeman Trail north into Montana, and then repelling the military in what became known as the First Sioux War (or Red Cloud's War) of 1866-68. The Indians won that effort, forcing the military to withdraw from Fort Phil Kearny and Fort Reno, which had been built along the trail. You can learn more about the events associated with the Indian War period by visiting the Jim Gatchell Museum in Buffalo, the re-created Fort Phil Kearny, and battle sites including the location of the Fetterman Massacre not far from Fort Phil Kearny and the Wagon Box Fight near Story

Cattlemen had their own battles here in April 1892 during the Johnson County Invasion, in which an armed brigade of Wyoming cowmen and their hired guns from Texas and Idaho rode north out of Casper, and encountered Nate Champion and Nick Ray at the KC Ranch. Two other men safely escaped the cattlemen, before Ray was gunned down, leaving Champion alone in the cabin. He wrote in a small notebook, "Boys, I feel pretty lonesome just now. I wish there was someone here with me so we could watch all sides at once. They may fool around until I get a good shot before they leave." But as we know,

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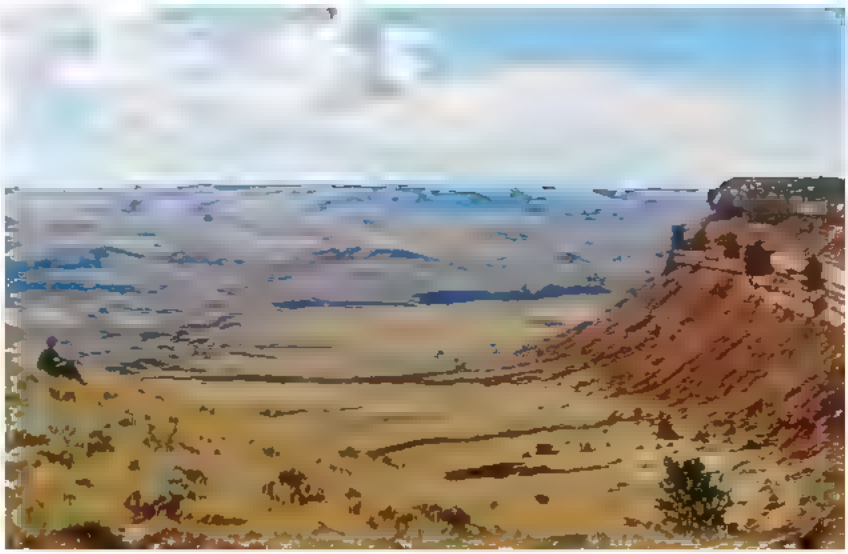

Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid rode the Hole in the Wall Country late in the 19th century, not long after Wyoming became a state.

CANDY MOULTON

Champion did not get his good shot and instead did not leave the cabin alive

The cattlemen and their hired guns rode north, but made it only to the TA Ranch where they were under siege themselves after townspeople from Buffalo learned of the invasion and put up their own defensive force. It took the action of Wyoming Governor Amos Barber, U.S. President Benjamin Harrison, and the 9th Cavalry stationed at Fort McKinney (near Buffalo) to rescue the cattlemen and take them into custody. Although they were charged, none was ever tried for incidents associated with the Johnson County Invasion (some call it a war).

Bighorn Mountains to Cody

Leave the plains behind and turn west at Buffalo taking U.S. 16 through the Bighorn Mountains to Tensleep, which is a good place to tell you a story about Wyoming's reputation as a medium-sized city with long streets. One evening in February there was an explosion in town. When the town's volunteer firemen raced to the firehouse to respond, they found that the fire was AT THEIR FIREHOUSE! They could not get in to get any of their trucks out, and watched helplessly until firemen from Worland and other nearby communities responded. The Fire Department was decimated, the firehouse plus the trucks, equipment and fire gear were destroyed.

Word of this fire spread quickly not just in town but throughout the state. Other fire departments stepped up, offering the use of trucks, equipment and gear until Tensleep could rebuild its department. One of the first offers of equipment came from the Town of Dubois, a small town just a little bigger than Tensleep. Remarkable about that offer is that just weeks earlier, Dubois saw a large portion of its business district burned in a fire that spread quickly and was difficult to contain because it broke out on a bitterly cold night. That fire, too, was a devastating event that deeply affected not only those in Dubois, but people across the state who knew and understood what the historic buildings and businesses meant to the community. In fact, the Dubois High School basketball teams came to my town of Encampment to play games shortly after their big fire. The students in our local high school, having learned of the fire, conducted an auction and raised a tidy sum to give to Dubois as a gesture of solidarity, much the same as Dubois later reached out to Tensleep. That, dear readers, tells you a bit about the spirit of Wyoming.

There's more to Tensleep than the story of a bad fire. If you head south you'll be able to visit the landscape pivotal in the last cattle-sheep war in Wyoming, where the Spring Creek Raid took place April 2, 1909. Seven men were arrested, charged and tried for the killing of Joe Emge and Joe Allemand. Prosecutors secured five convictions

for men who would serve from three years to life in prison.

From Tensleep continue on west and north on U.S. 16 through Worland, where I advise a visit to the Washakie Museum and Cultural Center, which interprets the geologic, paleontologic and historic stories of the Big Horn Basin. Cody, Wyoming, needs little introduction to True West readers, so I'll simply encourage a visit to the Museum of the West with its museums about Buffalo Bill, Plains Indians, firearms, natural science and Western art.

Yellowstone to Fort Bridger

Yellowstone is America's first national park and offers a blend of natural beauty, wildlife and history. Visit the Grand Canyon of Yellowstone, the Albright Visitor Center at Mammoth and Old Faithful. Just standing in the Old Faithful Inn is a trip back in time to an era when craftsmanship was truly phenomenal.

Continue south to Jackson Hole, a visit to Grand Teton National Park (check out the Colter Village Visitor Center with its collection of Indian moccasins, and the Craig Thomas Visitor Center at Moose), then spend some time exploring Jackson itself, including the Jackson Hole Museum and the town square with its signature elk antler arches.

David Jackson lent his name to this region, but many other trappers gathered annually in the Upper Green River country to rendezvous on Horse Creek near the town of Daniel. The history of the trappers is the focus of the Museum of the Mountain Man in Pinedale.

From Jackson Hole you can also head south to Dubois, which will no doubt be rebuilding this year following the fire. But the Wind River Museum and Cultural Center and the North American Wild Sheep Center stand ready for visitors.

Shoshone and Arapaho Indians have lived on Wyoming's land for thousands of years. At Fort Washakie visit the Gallery of the Wind with its outstanding displays of tribal artifacts. Travel west of Fort Washakie to the gravesites of the great Shoshone Chief Washakie, and the burial site—at least in the belief of the local people—of Sacajawea.

I cannot write about Wyoming and not mention the overland trails, so whether you travel south out of Jackson Hole via Dubois and Fort Washakie, or through Pinedale, you will strike the Oregon-Mormon Pioneer-Pony Express trails in central Wyoming, and can follow the pioneer trails southwest to Fort Bridger—worth a visit anytime, but most assuredly during the annual Fort Bridger Rendezvous over Labor Day Weekend. Traders fill the open areas of the fort's parade grounds and there are plenty of activities from tomahawk and frying-pan throws to black powder-shooting.

The jackalope is a part of Wyoming lore, and you can find one of the largest specimens in the state in Dubois, just as this young fellow did.

CANDY MOULTON

The Grand Canyon of Yellowstone has attracted tourists since the park was established in 1872.

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Candy Moulton is a Wyoming road warrior. Her first book, *Steamboat Legendary Bucking Horse* is the story of the iconic bucking symbol of the state, published by High Plains Press, a company located on a cattle ranch near Glendo that has published dozens of other great Wyoming histories.

PLACES TO VISIT/ CELEBRATIONS AND EVENTS

Longmire Days (above), *Buffalo*, July 17-19, **Devils Tower National Monument**, *Hulett*; **South Pass City**, *South Pass City*. **King Ropes Museum**, *Sheridan*, **Bradford Brinton Memorial**, *Bighorn*, **Fort Laramie National Historic Site**, *Fort Laramie*, **Museum of the Mountain Man**, *Pinedale*, **Cheyenne Frontier Days**, July 17-26, **Fort Bridger Rendezvous**, Labor Day Weekend.

GOOD EATS & SLEEPS

Good Grub: Steamboats Steak & Smoke House, *Cheyenne*; **Wyoming's Rib & Chop House**, *Cody*; **Proud Cut Saloon**, *Cody*; **The Gannett Saloon & Grill**, *Lander*; **Weston Wineries**, *Sheridan*; **The Bunnery**, *Jackson*.

Good Lodging: Nagle Warren Mansion, *Cheyenne*; **Plains Hotel, Hotel Wolf, Sheridan Inn**, *Sheridan*; **The Lodge and Spa at Brush Creek Ranch**, *Saratoga*; **Occidental Hotel**, *Buffalo*; **Buffalo Bill's Irma Hotel, Chamberlain House, Paradise Guest Ranch**, *Cody*; **Old Faithful Inn**, *Yellowstone National Park*.

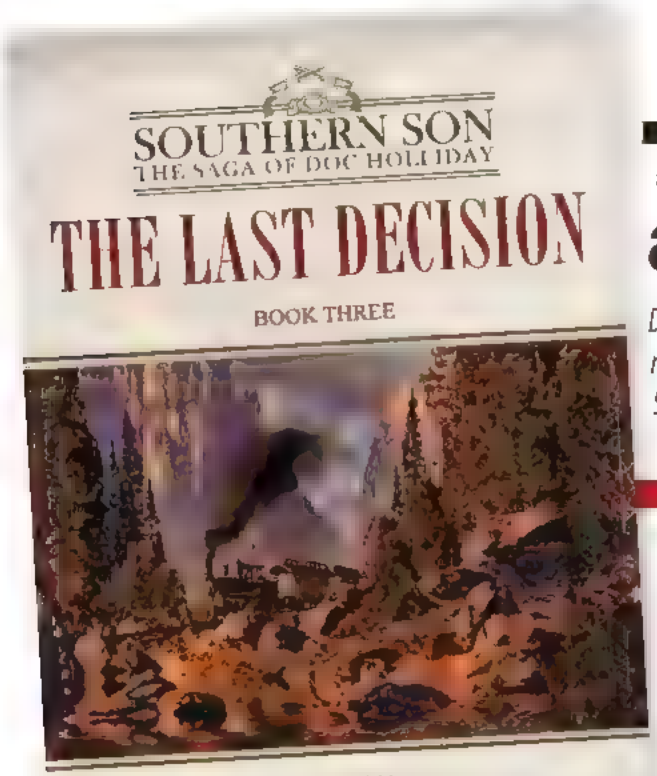
GOOD BOOKS/FILM & TV

Good Books: ***Reshaw: The Life and Times of John Baptiste Richard*** by Jefferson Glass; ***Wyoming Range War*** by John Davis, ***Hog Ranches of Wyoming: Liquor, Lust and Lies Under Open Skies*** by Larry K. Brown; ***Roadside History of Wyoming*** by Candy Moulton, ***Landmarked: Stories of Peggy Simpson Curry***, edited by Mary Alice Gunderson; ***Give Your Heart to the Hawks*** by Win Blevins, ***Honor Thy Father*** by Robert Rompaugh. "***Longmire***" series by Craig Johnson.

Films/TV: ***Longmire*** (Netflix); ***Shane*** (Paramount); ***The Big Sky*** (RKO), ***The Mountain Men*** (Columbia), ***Brokeback Mountain*** (Focus Features); ***I Will Fight No More Forever*** (ABC), ***Hell on Wheels*** (AMC).

WESTERN BOOKS

BOOK REVIEWS EDITOR: STUART ROSEBROOK



Trail's End for a Southern Son

Doc Holliday's epic journey concludes with hope and redemption, plus a biography of a legendary Western author, Sitting Bull's final struggle, America's destiny on the Rio Grande, and a new look at the life of John James Audubon.

John Henry "Doc" Holliday is one of the most mythic well-imagined characters in the annals of Old West popular culture. Victoria Wilcox's challenge in writing a fictional trilogy of the Georgia-born gunfighter was no easy task—and one that most authors would find both daunting and intimidating, in light of the plethora of real and imagined interpretations of the gambling dentist.

In *The Last Decision* (Knox Robinson Publishing, $17.99) the third volume of the *Southern Son: The Saga of Doc Holliday* series, Wilcox dramatically interprets the best-known era of the gunman's life—from 1879 to 1887. This book begins soon after Holliday and his on-again-off-again girlfriend Big Nose Kate Elder arrive in Prescott, the bustling territorial capital of Arizona with its famed "Whiskey Row" on Montezuma Street across from the unfinished Yavapai County courthouse. Wilcox's creative prose is backed by the historic details a novelist of literary history knows require accuracy. Her detailed character research and her personal and professional experience in film and television allow her to bring creative voice to the bedazzled pair who are jealously volatile—and triangulated between layered loyalties and lovers—especially Doc's allegiance to Wyatt Earp. "Problem was," Wilcox writes, "Kate didn't just hate his friend

"Problem was," Wilcox writes, "Kate didn't just hate his friend Wyatt—she'd tried to have him killed..."

Victoria Wilcox's *The Last Decision* romantically concludes *Southern Son: The Saga of Doc Holliday*, her trilogy of the Georgia-born dentist's legendary Western life—from his arrival in Prescott in 1879 (above) to his death from consumption—and unrequited love—in a Glenwood Springs sanatorium

TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

The Last Decision takes readers onto the streets of Tombstone with Doc Holliday and his friend, Wyatt Earp, and their tangled relationship with Kate Elder before and after the Gunfight Behind the O.K. Corral

TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

Wyatt—she'd tried to have him killed, back in Dodge City, a sin which John Henry would neither forgive nor forget."

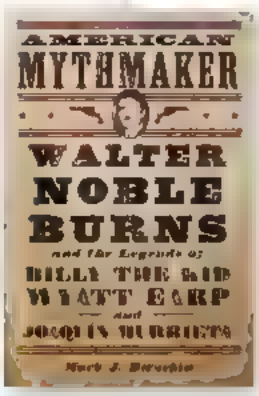
Wilcox's decision to refer to "Doc" Holliday as John Henry provides readers the opportunity to understand his life, motivations, relationships, passions, vices and loves through a new identity, rather than the clichéd "Doc" of Hollywood, pulps and popular culture. Like other authors who have met the challenge of fictionalizing—and bringing voice to the Western icon—most recently authors Larry McMurtry, Mary Fancher and Mary Doria Russell—Wilcox worked to create a unique voice that is also as "true" to the history—and the legend—as possible.

Fans of Wilcox's robust, mythic Southern Son trilogy—on par with Mary Stewart's Merlin trilogy—will await her next novel with anticipation and confidence that her narrative style will be equally distilled with her distinctive historical interpretation and creative dialogue. In homage to Margaret Mitchell, an obvious literary heroine from Wilcox's adopted home state of Georgia, Wilcox leaves readers wondering whether she is leaving clues that her passion for Southern history, literature and popular culture will inspire a new series. And while many may want Wilcox to expand the romance in her novels, I for one would suggest that she delve into the darker edges of the seven deadly sins and the triangulations and temptations she eludes to in the unrequited relationship between John Henry Holliday, Kate Elder and Wyatt Earp. Like Jim Thompson's condemned couple, "Doc and Carol" in *The Getaway*, and Dorothy Johnson's flawed characters in her short story *The Man Who Killed Liberty Valance*, Wilcox might consider mining more of the dark side of the West—and the vices therein—in her next novelization of Western history.

—Stuart Rosebrook

THE "APOCRYPHAL CANTOS" OF WALTER NOBLE BURNS

Eighty-three years after Walter Noble Burns' death comes Mark J. Dworkin's *American Mythmaker* (University of Oklahoma Press, $29.95), the first literary biography of the Chicago journalist-turned-author who rekindled America's passion for the old and epic West. In fascinating blends of fact and myth he called "apocryphal cantos," Burns rendered Billy the Kid and Wyatt Earp as Homeric figures. Scorned by later generations of scholars for his unverifiable narratives, Burns is all but forgotten today.



ROUGH DRAFTS

Congratulations to the Western Writers of America annual Spur Award winners in biography, nonfiction and fiction presented in Lubbock, Texas, June 23-27.

Biography Winner: Philip Burnham's *Song of Dewey Beard. Last Survivor of the Little Bighorn* (University of Nebraska Press).

Finalists Biography: Larry D. Ball's *Tom Horn in Life and Legend* and Richard W. Etulain's *The Life and Legends of Calamity Jane* (both University of Oklahoma Press)

Historical Nonfiction Winner: Jerome A. Greene's *American Carnage. Wounded Knee, 1890* (University of Oklahoma Press).

Historical Nonfiction Finalists: David L. Caffey's *Chasing the Santa Fe Ring: Power and Privilege in Territorial New Mexico* (University of New Mexico Press) and Will Bagley's *South Pass: Gateway to a Continent* (University of Oklahoma Press)

Best First Nonfiction Book: Jefferson Glass's *Reshaw. The Life & Times of John Baptiste Richard* (High Plains Press).

Best Western Historical Novel and Best First Novel: James D. Crownover's *Wild Ran the Rivers* (Five Star Publishing)

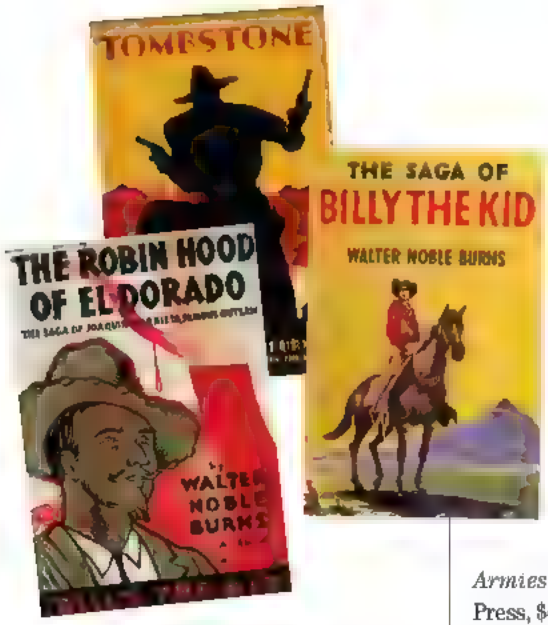
Finalists Best Western Historical Novel: Jane Kirkpatrick's *A Light in the Wilderness* (Revell) and Michael McGarrity's Backlands (Dutton).

Traditional Novel Winner: Patrick Dearen's *The Big Drift* (TCU Press).

Finalists Traditional Novel: Michael Zimmer's *The Poacher's Daughter* and J.D. March's *Dance with the Devil* (both Five Star Publishing)

For a complete list of all 2015 Spur Award winners, please visit *WesternWriters.org*

—Stuart Rosebrook



Mark Dworkin's *American Mythmaker* is the first to chronicle Walter Noble Burns' life and the influence of his classic mythic histories of Billy the Kid, Wyatt Earp and Joaquin Murrieta have had on 20th-century popular culture's interpretation of the outlaws and gunfighters.

COURTESY MARK DWORKIN COLLECTION

Author Dworkin makes a remarkable case that Burns deserves a second reading, because of his sly combination of authentic narrative with mythic storytelling.

—Max McCoy, author of Jesse A Novel of the Outlaw Jesse James.

MANIFEST DESTINY ON THE RIO GRANDE

Douglas A. Murphy's *Two Armies on the Rio Grande* (Texas A&M Press, $45) is the most complete documentation of what is still, to this day, a bone of contention in both countries. The closer one gets to the Rio Grande, the more evident and pronounced the "discussions" become. Murphy has brilliantly explained the conditions, and delivers an in-depth look at the way the war was viewed by the U S and Mexico, with special insight into

the way military men think and react. Murphy's candor and fairness in detailing the conflicts of man is refreshing. All who read this account will be blessed not only by the accuracy of information, the in-depth study of historical and geographical events, but by the dedication of the writer to "get it right."

—Max Oliver, author of Chief Red Nose

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BIRD MAN: A NEW LIFE OF JOHN JAMES AUDUBON

Two salient facts about the famed naturalist and artist John James Audubon come out in Nancy Plain's vigorous *This Strange Wilderness. The Life and Art of John James Audubon* (University of Nebraska Press, $19.95). He was incorrigibly footloose, and he "shot thousands of birds in his lifetime." Yet Audubon correctly foresaw that their demise would not come from bullets but from loss of habitat as "America's infinite forests fell to the settler's ax." That recognition explains why our foremost conservation group bears the French immigrant's name. Audubon lived a life of stressful poverty, but his wandering with gun and easel yielded the monumental *Birds of America*. Meant for younger readers but well suited to grown-ups, *This Strange*

This Strange Wilderness. The Life and Art of John James Audubon by Nancy Plain provides readers of all ages a concise introduction to the naturalist's prophetic role in the establishment of the American conservation movement.

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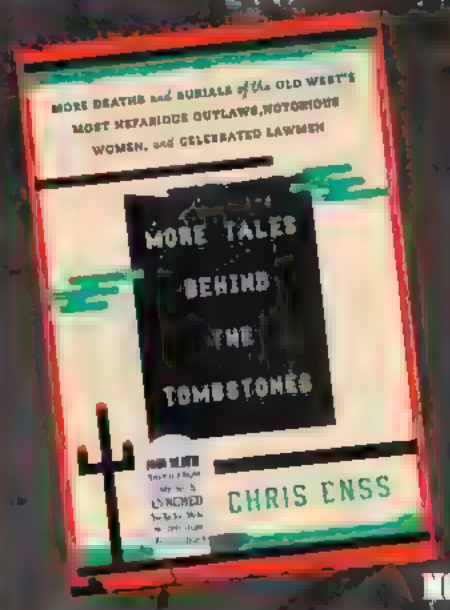
As it must to all people, death came to...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"Plain chronicles Audubon's adventurous life in a succinct, absorbing narrative that is well researched, meticulously documented, and beautifully written. . . This biography offers a vivid introduction to Audubon's life and work." —Carolyn Phelan, Booklist starred review

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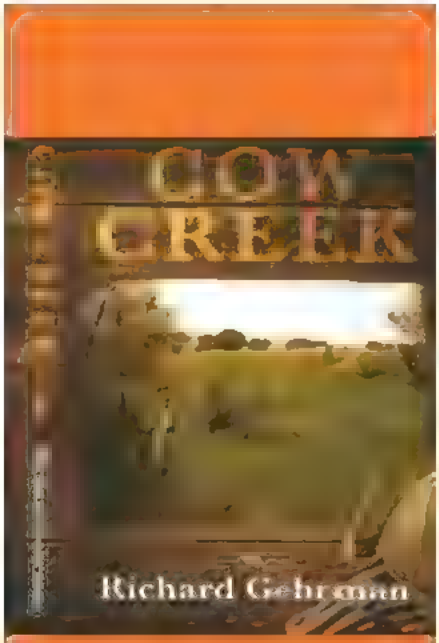

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ON THE WESTERN TRAIL OF THE CIVIL WAR WITH WALTER EARL PITTMAN

Today, historian Walter Earl Pittman calls his wife's home state of New Mexico home. A current resident of Roswell, Pittman is Southern by birth (a native of Mississippi), but like the men he has chronicled in his latest book, *Rebels in the Rockies: Confederate Irregular Warfare in the Western Territories* (McFarland), he is well traveled and has called many places home. The son of a career naval officer, Pittman spent much of his youth moving, before he followed in his father's footsteps to college and into the military. But, instead of continuing to wear a uniform, he found his calling as a professor. During his 40-year career he has published over 80 articles, mostly on the history of science and technology, and two other books, including *New Mexico and the Civil War* (History Press). Not one to slow down, Pittman is currently very involved with the Lincoln County Historical Society and is working on a military history of the U.S. Army in New Mexico.

He recommends these five classic books about the Civil War in the West.

❶ *The Sand Creek Massacre* (Stan Hoig, University of Oklahoma Press). Hoig's book, a dramatic survey of the West during the Civil War, centers on the Indian wars of the Plains, culminating in the infamous Sand Creek Massacre of the Cheyenne in 1864. Significantly, he first pointed out the murder of five Confederate prisoners by Col. John Chivington en route to Sand Creek.

❷ *A Confederate in the Colorado Gold Fields* (Daniel Ellis Conner, University of Oklahoma Press): Conner's 1867 memoir is a rare first-hand account of Confederate clandestine activity in the West. Thinly disguised names and events hide real participants. Conner realistically details the strengths, weaknesses and ultimate failures of the mountain rebels.

❸ *Rebels on the Rio Grande: The Civil War Journal of A.B. Peticolas* (Don E. Alberts, ed. University of New Mexico Press). Peticolas was a cavalryman in the abortive Confederate 1861-62 invasion of New Mexico. He was also a cool, observant participant, a lawyer, who was also a skilled painter. Serving later with a small unit recruited in New Mexico fighting in Louisiana and used as "special forces," he painted incredible action watercolors that are in his memoir.

❹ *Noted Guerrillas, Or the Warfare of the Border* (John M. Edwards. Bryan, Bryan, Co.). Edwards' 1877 masterpiece remains the best source of information on Quantrill, the Missouri Rebel Guerrillas and their connections with the Texas and Colorado Rebels. He was one. Often derided for exaggeration and his pro-Southern attitude, Edwards knew and told more about the guerrillas than anyone else could.

❺ *Sibley's New Mexico Campaign* (Martin Hardwicke Hall. University of New Mexico Press). Hall's book first brought attention to the 1861-'62 Confederate invasion of New Mexico. Now replaced by Jerry Thompson and Donald Frazier's more thorough studies, it remains basically sound and reliable. Hall first uncovered many of the basic facts relied on by later writers.

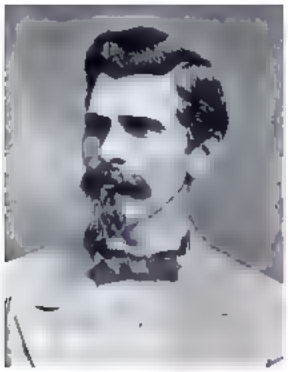
Wilderness capably shows why Audubon matters, not just as an artist but also as a conservationist.

—*Gregory McNamee, author of* Gila. The Life and Death of an American River

SITTING BULL'S NEMESIS

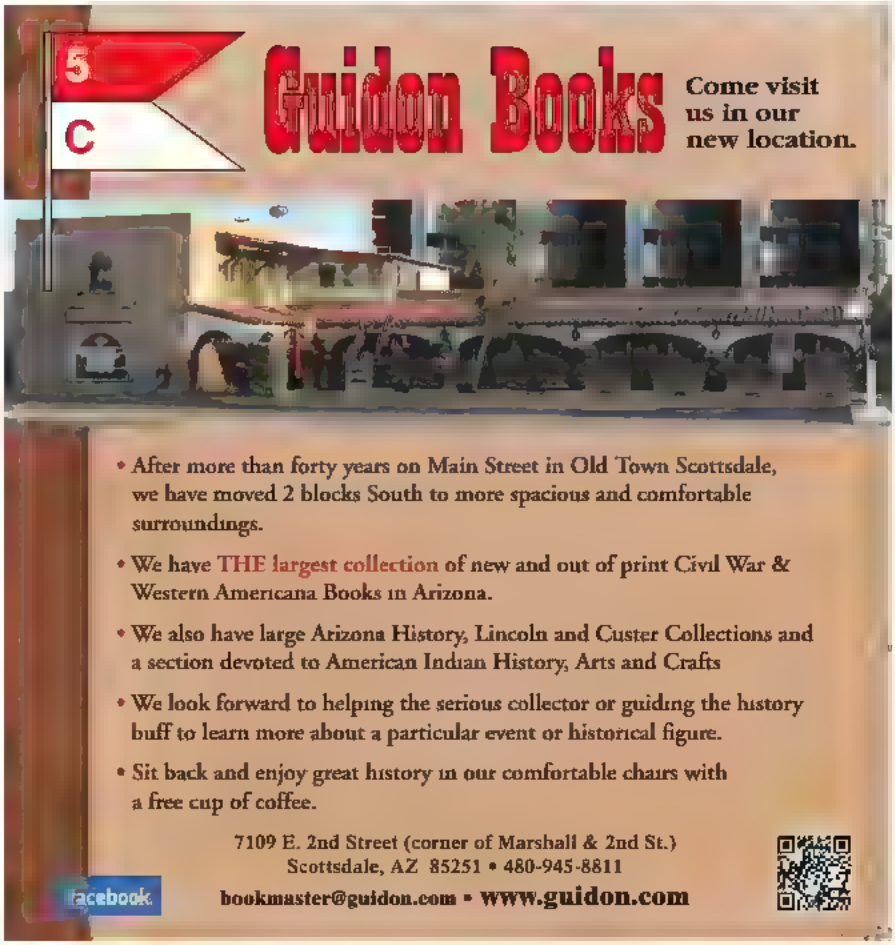
"Lakotas will kill you," came to Tatanka Iyotake not by human voice, but by the song of his beloved meadowlark. Standing Rock Agent James McLaughlin sent Indian Police to arrest Tatanka Iyotake, also known as Sitting Bull, concerned he was leading a Ghost Dance rebellion. The arrest ended with the deaths of Sitting Bull, some supporters, and some Indian Police. Norman E. Matteoni's *Prairie Man: The Struggle between Sitting Bull and Indian Agent James McLaughlin* (TwoDot, $18.95) recounts the struggle between the Lakotas' desire to continue their way of life and the whites who wanted to "civilize" them. This struggle focused on Sitting Bull's attempt to preserve traditions and James McLaughlin's insistence that Indians must conform. Well-written and well-researched, *Prairie Man* belongs with the classics of the northern plains.

—*Bill Markley, author of* Deadwood Dead Men



The dramatic cultural conflict in Norman E. Matteoni's *Prairie Man: The Struggle between Sitting Bull and Indian Agent James McLaughlin* provides an empathetic dual biography of the great Lakota chief's determination to save the Sioux from imposed cultural assimilation

COURTESY STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF NORTH DAKOTA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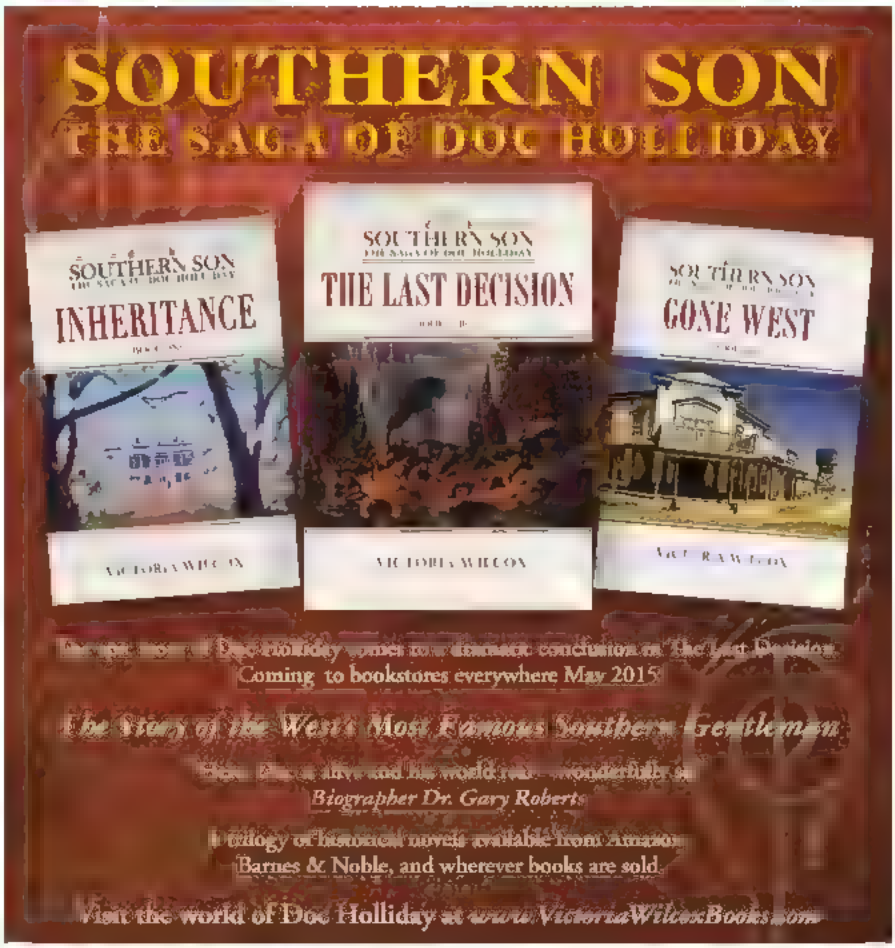
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WESTERN MOVIES

BY HENRY C. PARKE

The Films of Pancho Villa

Numerous fiascos didn't keep one inspired film from reaching classic status.

Pancho Villa was admired by some of the finest writers of the 20th century, and a surprising number wrote screenplays about him: Ben Hecht, who, with Charles MacArthur, redefined our opinion of the press with 1931's *The Front Page*; Robert Towne, whose *Chinatown* screenplay is arguably the most important work of literature of the 1970s; Sam Peckinpah who, from *The Rifleman* series to 1969's *The Wild Bunch*, brought a combination of reality and poetry to the West in particular and to manhood in general. Their views of the Mexican Revolution general offered cinemagoers wildly differing results.

Certain elements in Villa's life so appealed to filmmakers that they are found in virtually all Villa films. The writers relished his illiteracy. They ate up the fact that he married women at the drop of a sombrero—unofficially, more than two dozens. They appreciated that the seemingly 1870s-style story was really 20th century, replete with cars and planes.

They especially delighted in his American supporters. In 1934's *Viva Villa!* Villa's American ally is a reporter played by Stuart Erwin. In 1968's *Villa Rides*, he's Robert Mitchum's gun-smuggling pilot. In 1972's *Pancho Villa*, he's Clint Walker's gunrunner.

Most of all, they loved that Villa had an instinct for using the press...and Hollywood. The heart of 2003's *And Starring Pancho Villa as Himself* is Villa's involvement with the film industry. But even back in 1972, Telly Savalas's Villa took time out from a battle to watch a newsreel of his own exploits.

By the time *Viva Villa!* wrapped, the film had three directors (Howard Hawks and William Wellman went uncredited), and it still earned a best picture nomination! Wallace Beery's work as Pancho Villa (above right) was top notch, and Stuart Erwin (above left) stepped in as the journalist after Lee Tracy's embarrassing and insulting balcony trip.

COURTESY MGM

Although the other films have considerable merit, the only undeniable classic is *Viva Villa!* re-released this May by Warner Home Video. Wallace Beery gives one of the finest performances of his career, reprising a role he played in 1917—when Villa was still alive and powerful—in the lost New Jersey-filmed Pathé serial *Patria*.

Hecht's script—written in two weeks—is brilliant, taking Villa from his childhood to his death, painting him convincingly as both brutal thug and patriotic idealist, undone by his own innocence. James Wong Howe's breathtaking black-and-white cinematography of Mexico makes one wonder why anyone would make a movie in color.

The supporting cast is exceptional. Leo Carrillo is hilarious and chilling as Villa's friend, whose impatient, "Hurry up; it take too long," became a signal that someone was about to die. Carrillo graduated to the lead for 1950's *Pancho Villa Returns*.

Five years before David O. Selznick produced *Gone with the Wind*, he learned

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Antonio Banderas reveals a savvy bandit general in his portrayal of Pancho Villa, the 2003 HBO film is the best movie about the Mexican Revolution general since the 1934 classic film *Viva Villa!*

BY RICO TORRES, HBO

some hard lessons with *Viva Villa!* To shoot in Mexico, MGM agreed to give script approval to a Mexican government full of Villa's enemies and final cut approval to Villa's widow. Accommodations were so primitive that cast and crew were living aboard a train—except sometimes star Beery, who often flew himself to El Paso, Texas, to sleep.

After two months of shooting, Director Howard Hawks felt the film was in the can. Then a plane carrying three weeks of his footage crashed and burned.

As if that was not bad enough, second male lead Lee Tracy, playing a cynical journalist who befriends Villa, woke up hungover and, annoyed by noise outside his hotel, staggered, naked, out on the balcony, and urinated into the street, onto a military parade, dousing the cadets of Mexico's equivalent of West Point. MGM had to rush Tracy out of Mexico. To make amends, the studio not only apologized to the government, but also fired Tracy, canceling his long-term contract, and cut every frame of him from the movie.

Back in Hollywood, California—between redoing all of Tracy's scenes with Erwin and the lost footage—two thirds of the movie had to be reshot. Not by Hawks—Selznick claimed he fired him, and Hawks claimed he quit—but by Jack Conway. Regardless of all the fiascos, the movie turned out wonderful.

> Hecht paints Villa as both brutal thug and patriotic idealist, undone by his own innocence.

Hecht's effort was followed up by Peckinpah and Towne's. In 1968's *Villa Rides*, the sophisticated Yul Brynner couldn't be any more unlike Beery's lovable bandit slob, and that was the problem: he wasn't willing to play Villa as a thug touched with greatness. Brynner complained Peckinpah had created a villain, not a hero. Paramount fired Peckinpah and brought in Towne to fix the mess. But all the action couldn't hide the half-hearted telling.

Mitchum, as a gun-running pilot, is more fun than Brynner, and he gets more screen time. The film's greatest strength is its humor: Charles Bronson played Maj. Gen. Rodolfo Fierro, Carrillo's character from *Viva Villa!* The Brynner and Bronson teaming compares well with Beery and Carrillo. The biggest single mistake was casting Herbert Lom as Villa's nemesis, Gen. Victoriano Huerta. While Beery and his Teutonic-seeming enemy contrasted hugely, Brynner and Lom were so jarringly alike in looks, manner and voice, that only Lom's hair would let you tell them apart—and bald-headed Brynner wore a wig!

With Savalas playing Villa and a supporting cast that included Clint Walker, Anne Francis and Chuck Connors, the 1972 Euro-Western *Pancho Villa* should have been a winner. But director and story writer Eugenio Martín never decided whether to make an action picture or a farce, and he ended up with both. Savalas's performance is more than unsympathetic; it's clownish. In one scene, Villa thinks he's dying before he realizes that his clothes are actually full of lizards, because he doesn't change his underwear enough.

The most recent of the Villa feature films is HBO's delightful 2003 movie *And Starring Pancho Villa as Himself*. Antonio Banderas stars as the savvy bandit using the American film industry to promote and finance his revolution. This is the first film on Villa since 1934 that's worth watching twice.

Henry C. Parke is a screenwriter based in Los Angeles, California, who blogs about Western movies, TV, radio and print news: *HenrysWesternRoundup.Blogspot.com* Henry's grandfather, for whom he is named, fought with Gen. John "Black Jack" Pershing against Pancho Villa.

Collectors regularly bid on Western movie posters, including this daybill for 1968's *Villa Rides!* auctioned off by Heritage Auctions. The next movie auction will be this July 25–26.

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> "The milk-shake is the craze, and the city people... come upon it everywhere."

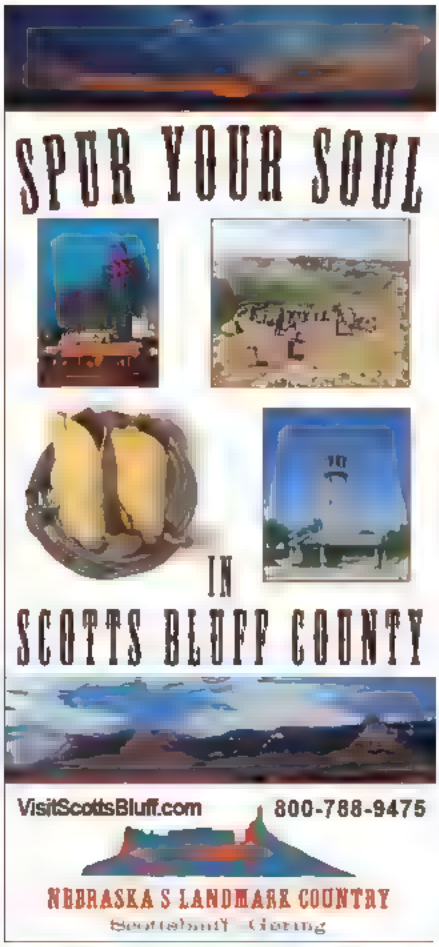
The 19th-century milkshake vendor often sold ice cream too. One cool drink, an ice cream soda, became a national pastime by the 1890s. Once electric currents replaced hand shaking to mix up concoctions, the milkshake man could offer a cool drink in the form of an ice cream milkshake.

Patent records credit John F. Mains, of Indianapolis, Indiana, for inventing the milkshake machine. On January 31, 1888, he was granted a patent for a machine that agitated liquids. He claimed, "My said invention relates to that class of machines by which a glass of liquid is rapidly reciprocated, and which are used in producing the various cool drinks used in the hot seasons, among which are those known as milk-shake, lemonade. .."

As early as 1887, folks were enjoying milkshakes across America. Milkshakes were the new health drink in Kansas City, Missouri. After all, milk was healthy, right? "The really delicious drink, known as the Milk Shake, which is now having such an immense run in the east, has lately been introduced in Kansas City by the Mortons of Ice Cream fame," *The Kansas City Times* reported. "In the making of this healthful drink, only the Pure Jersey Milk from their own dairy is used. Call at their place and try a glass."

In mid-November, the "Sons of the Emerald Isle" held an Irish Day celebration that featured milkshakes. "The milk-shake man always waited till the softest music was on so as to make the boom of his shaker more impressive. Between the milk-shake man, the glass blower, lottery man and the irrepressible small boy, things were kept lively yesterday," *The Kansas City Times* reported.

The "Milk-Shake Fad" hit by August 1888. "No country drug shop or cross-roads store is now considered complete without a machine for making



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MILKSHAKE

1 ½ cups whole milk

2 tablespoons sweetened fruit syrup

2 tablespoons liqueur or brandy, optional ice

Put ingredients in a shaker and shake for a minute. Strain into a glass and serve cold.

Recipe adapted from *Houston Daily Post*, September 2, 1900

milk-shakes," San Francisco's *Evening Bulletin* reported in California. "The milk-shake is the craze, and the city people on their vacations come upon it everywhere. The shake is merely a glass of milk and an inch of fruit sirup *[sic]*. The glass that contains it is put in place in a machine that jolts and bounces it terrifically for a minute or two, mixing in into a light substance like whipped cream."

A couple months later, the *San Francisco Vindicator* reported, "Every first-class soda-fountain now has a milkshake machine ... It is mostly a woman's drink, but since so many liquor saloons have been compelled to go into the temperance business, has become quite popular among the old beer drinkers.... The man who invented the machine to make milkshakes is said to have made $100,000 already on his patent."

Even Dallas, Texas, deemed the milkshake a trendy drink for the summer of 1889. The ladies of the Floyd Street M.E. Church held a milkshake and ice cream festival to support the parsonage.

By 1890, hotels and restaurants were selling milkshakes. The Commercial Hotel and Restaurant in St. Louis, Missouri, offered them for five cents each.

Texans loved their milkshakes too. Make the 19th-century version of a milkshake from the recipe shared in the *Houston Daily Post* on September 2, 1900.

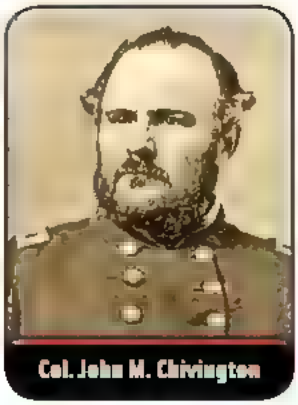
Sherry Monahan has penned *Mrs. Earp: Wives & Lovers of the Earp Brothers*, *California Vines, Wines & Pioneers*, *Taste of Tombstone*, *The Wicked West* and *Tombstone's Treasure*. She's appeared on the History Channel in *Lost Worlds* and other shows.

SURVIVAL OUT WEST

BY TERRY A. DEL BENE

Shot and Left for Dead

MEDICINE WOMAN LATER AMAZINGLY SURVIVED A MASSACRE.



Col. John M. Chivington

Cheyenne chiefs, including Black Kettle (seated center), posed together after successful peace talks with Maj. Edward W. Wynkoop (kneeling, with hat on, in front of Black Kettle) at Camp Weld near Denver, Colorado, in September 1864.

ALL PHOTOS TRUE WEST ARCHIVES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

In November 1864, Medicine Woman Later and her husband, Southern Cheyenne Chief Black Kettle, set up their lodge amongst a large encampment of approximately 500 Cheyennes and Arapahos on the banks of Sand Creek in Colorado. The Indians established camp there at the behest of the U.S. Army and in response to the Colorado governor's proclamation for all friendly Indians to seek shelter with the military authorities or be "subdued" by force of arms. The military provided the Indians with rations while at Sand Creek, and traders visited the camp that was under the protection of the U.S. government.

A bitter cold spread through the morning air of November 29, when Col. John M. Chivington's 675 Colorado volunteer cavalrymen unexpectedly thundered out of the darkness to attack the peaceful encampment. Medicine Woman Later was awakened by the noise, but her husband assured her she was hearing soldiers passing through. He left the lodge with an American flag and a white flag, which he flew as a reminder that the village was peaceful.

ADDITIONAL SHOTS PUNCHED THROUGH HER HELPLESS BODY AS SOLDIERS MOVED THROUGH THE CAMP.

The rumbling was replaced by the sounds of bugling, rifle fire and the crashing of cannon. Women and children screamed as the deadly missiles scythed through the lodges.

HISTORY IN ART

BY ILLUSTRATOR ANDY THOMAS

After raising a flag of truce and an American flag, Black Kettle encouraged his people not to resist. Army troops fired into the crowd anyway. The 65-year-old chief returned to his lodge to get Medicine Woman Later and bring his wife to safety. They were among the last fleeing from the camp, past the bodies of their friends. With a young boy running behind him (see inset of full painting), the question becomes: who will the soldier shoot?

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The Southern Cheyennes were among the American Indian tribes of the frontier West who wore leather leggings to protect against cold weather. Cowboys adapted these into chaps, of various styles, including the warmest, woolies, made with hair on cowhide and worn by this Wyoming range rider.

BY CHARLES J. BELDEN COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Medicine Woman Later joined her husband at the lodge's entrance, where he still tried to wave off the attack. His people were fleeing the encampment, with many heading for the shelter of a nearby dry creek. At that place, a few warriors were making a stand. The soldiers' hot flying metal cut down indiscriminately the women, children and the elderly.

While the camp emptied, Black Kettle and Medicine Woman Later headed toward the dry creek. As the howling storm of shot and shell swirled around them, they passed the bodies of many of their friends. The world suddenly went dark for Medicine Woman Later. She was unconscious, felled by either shrapnel or a bullet, and unaware that her husband knelt by her side. Black Kettle left her for dead.

He returned after the final shots of the eight-hour fight. During that time, she had awakened. Additional shots punched through her helpless body as soldiers moved through the camp. After what seemed an eternity to her, Black Kettle found her and removed her from the scene of death and atrocity.

She and Black Kettle barely survived one of the most infamous genocidal atrocities in American history, in which roughly 150 Cheyennes and Arapahos perished. The nation, including some participants, were shocked at the barbarism of the troops. A Congressional committee lambasted Chivington with the terms "cowardly," "foul" and "dastardly" for leading a revolting butchery of mostly women and children.

Cruel history was not through with Medicine Woman Later and Black Kettle. On November 27, 1868, both were murdered during a simular surprise attack, at the Washita River, by the 7th Cavalry Regiment under George Armstrong Custer.

Terry A. Del Bene is an archaeologist and freelance writer who worked for many years for the Bureau of Land Management in Wyoming before he retired to Alaska in 2010.

SURVIVAL TIPS

HOW TO STAY WARM IN COLD WEATHER

One of the more curious popular notions is the belief that going to sleep to survive a cold weather situation is bad. The opposite is true, as a sleeping individual uses fewer calories than one taking measures to stay awake. Perhaps being knocked unconscious is what allowed Medicine Woman Later to survive that cold November day.

Fire, tailored clothing, wool fabrics and heated structures all help keep out chills. Eskimos advise that to stay warm in the cold, you should bundle up as well as you can, pull those arms in from the coat sleeves and wrap them around the torso to help keep your core temperature at a safe level. If sleep comes, allow it to happen. If you force yourself to stay awake and shiver, exhaustion may speed the onset of the shivers, which is one of the first symptoms of hypothermia.

Listening to your body's desire to sleep saves calories you may need to get to a warmer location later or to await rescue.

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TRUE WEST

Saint Jerome Lends His Name

His Apache name was Goyathlay (He Who Yawns) but during a battle with Mexican soldiers, he fought so ferociously and attacked their lines so fearlessly, that many of the Mexicans frantically called upon Saint Jerome to save them. A nickname stuck, and soon enough he was known on both sides of the border as Geronimo.

See more True Western Moments
BobBozeBell.net

Read more History
TrueWestMagazine.com

BY JOHN STANLEY

Rodeo Capital of the World

Historic Cody, Wyoming, grew up on the fame of Buffalo Bill.

Unlike most boomtowns, Cody never went bust.

With Buffalo Bill Cody putting all his efforts and investments into the success of the Bighorn Basin city named in his honor, Cody, Wyoming, grew into the eastern gateway city to Yellowstone National Park during the first decade of the 20th century

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The power brokers flanking Buffalo Bill Cody in 1910 are land speculator George Beck (left), who convinced the Wild West promoter to support his plan to build Cody, and Henry J. Fulton (right), the Wyoming rancher who became the vice president of the First National Bank of Cody

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Buffalo Bill is commonly considered the founding father of Cody, Wyoming. And while that's a perfectly reasonable assumption, credit really should go to George Washington Thornton Beck.

After all, it wasn't long after the passage of the Carey Act of 1894, allowing private companies in arid states to create irrigation projects, that Beck came up with a plan to sell water to the ranchers, farmers and settlers he hoped to lure to a new town in the Bighorn Basin of northwestern Wyoming. When Buffalo Bill Cody, already a world-famous frontiersman and showman, signed on, the project was off and running.

"Like everything in the Old West, it was a pretty speculative venture," says Jeremy Johnston, managing editor of *The Papers of William F. Cody* and the curator of the town's Buffalo Bill Museum. But Cody did his part by bringing in a line of the Burlington Railroad, building the Irma Hotel

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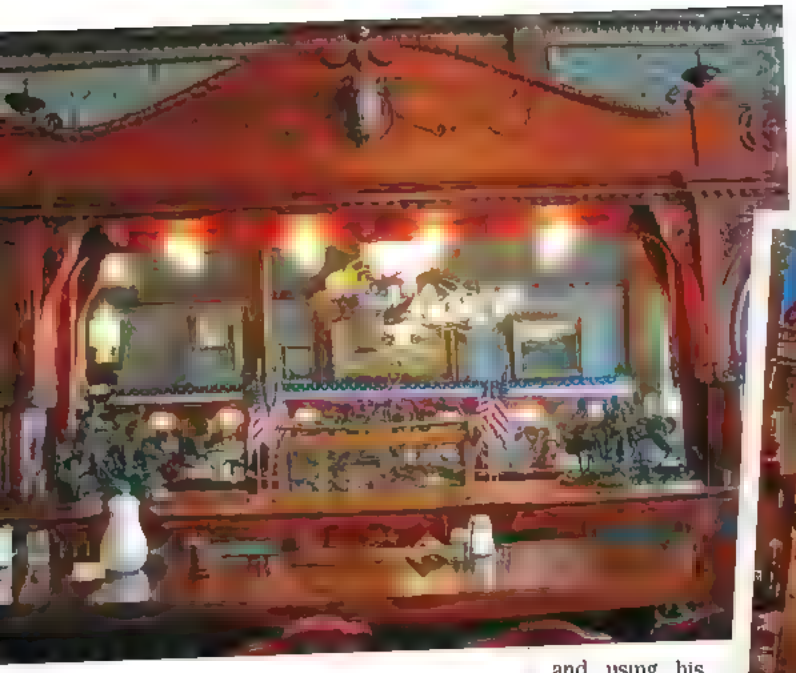
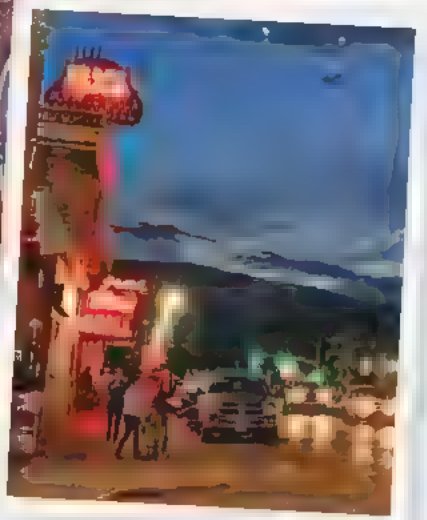


The Silver Saddle Saloon at Buffalo Bill's Irma Hotel (above) boasts a historic English cherrywood bar, a gift from Queen Victoria to her friend Bill Cody.

PHOTOS COURTESY PARK COUNTY TRAVEL COUNCIL



Downtown Cody (below) welcomes visitors who enjoy its Western atmosphere and lively nightlife featuring a great variety of shops, restaurants and historic saloons

and using his Wild West Show to promote the town as a stop for tourists on the way to Yellowstone National Park.

Unlike most boomtowns, Cody never went bust. Partly that was due to the ranching, mining and drilling operations that diversified the local economy, but naming the town "Cody" certainly helped. At the time, Buffalo Bill was the most famous American in the world. His show—a rowdy, melodramatic spectacle featuring real Indians and frontiersmen—had already dazzled audiences across the United States and Europe for more than a decade (and was to run nearly 20 more years). Cody's PR value was incalculable.

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Long Live the Wild West

Founded in 1919, the Cody Stampede Rodeo is held every Fourth of July weekend. The Cody Nite Rodeo, (right) started in 1938, runs June 1 to August 31, and along with the Stampede, has earned Cody the nickname "Rodeo Capital of the World."

PHOTOS COURTESY PARK COUNTY TRAVEL COUNCIL

"Even today we benefit from that," Johnston says. "Cody has plenty of interesting tourist destinations, but it's also a strong community with a hometown feel to it, it's not all show and display. Many residents have ties that go back to the first homesteaders. In some ways, the Old West never ended here."

The Buffalo Bill Center of the West is the town's number one attraction, a kind of historical emporium consisting of five individual museums and a library, all under one roof. "There are so many treasures here," Johnston says, specifically noting artworks by Frederic Remington, Charles Russell and other artists in the Whitney Western Art Museum, a rare tepee made of hides in the Plains Indian Museum; a huge collection of rifles, pistols and shotguns in the Cody Firearms Museum; a slew of artifacts and documents belonging to Cody himself

The Cody Stampede Parade, (left) popular with locals and visitors, is a star-spangled event celebrating our nation's birthday on July 3 and July 4

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Buffalo Bill's
CODY YELLOWSTONE COUNTRY

THE WILDEST WAY INTO YELLOWSTONE

"In some ways, the Old West never ended here."

in the Buffalo Bill Museum (including "Lucretia Borgia," the Springfield 50 trapdoor needle gun Cody used to earn his moniker), and the engaging displays on the region's flora, fauna and geology in the Draper Natural History Museum. The McCracken Research Library holds documents and photographs.

The historic Irma Hotel, built in 1902, remains a popular place to stay, have a meal or enjoy a drink. Although it's a popular tourist attraction, there's no admission fee. "Just go in and eat lunch," Johnston says. The Cody Gunfighters, a local

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In 1967, Wyoming native Bob Edgar founded Old Trail Town on the original site of "Cody City," just west of the modern town Dedicated to saving the state's heritage, the museum has 26 historic structures, 100 horse drawn vehicles and a vast material collection of Indian and frontier artifacts

COURTESY PARK COUNTY TRAVEL COUNCIL

re-enactment troupe, performs next door to the Irma during the summer months. Firearm enthusiasts will also enjoy a visit to the Cody Dug Up Gun Museum, an eclectic collection of guns dating from the Revolutionary War up through World War II.

It's easy to see why Cody has become known as the Rodeo Capital of the World. Not only is it home to the Cody Stampede Rodeo (July 1-4), you can catch thrilling rodeo action at the Cody Nite Rodeo every single night in June, July and August. Other mark-your-calendar events include the Cody Wild West Days in May, the Wild West Extravaganza in July and the Buffalo Bill Art Show in September

The Buffalo Bill Center of the West's research library and five museums are among the most comprehensive on the West in the United States

COURTESY BUFFALO BILL CENTER OF THE WEST

John Stanley, the Arizona Wildlife Federation's 2007 Conservation Media Champion, is a former travel reporter and photographer for *The Arizona Republic*

WHERE HISTORY MEETS THE HIGHWAY

Get the lay of the land at the Cody Chamber of Commerce Visitor Center, then check out these nearby attractions. Remember that many places in the region are open seasonally.

CodyChamber.org

Buffalo Bill Center of the West

The premier Western museum in the United States, the Buffalo Bill Center of the West—including its Buffalo Bill, Whitney Western Art, Cody Firearms, Draper Natural History and Plains Indian museums, plus the McCracken Research Library—is the must-see first stop in Cody

CenteroftheWest.org

Old Trail Town

Located at the original site of Cody City, the Old Trail Town & Museum of the Old West consists of more than two-dozen 19th-century buildings carefully moved there, as well as scads of horse-drawn vehicles, loads of Indian artifacts and lots of other items dating from frontier days. Check out the gravesites of John "Liver-Eating" Johnson and noted scout Simpson Everett "Jack" Stilwell (whose brother, Frank, was killed by Wyatt Earp)

OldTrailTown.org

Meeteetse

The Meeteetse Museum, Charles Belden Museum of Western Photography, and the Bank Museum (collectively known as the Meeteetse Museums) hold a terrific collection of early artifacts and historical photos

MeeteetseMuseums.org

Homesteader Museum

Renovated cabins and period artifacts at the Homesteader Museum provide a fascinating glimpse into pioneer life. Visit the first Saturday after Labor Day to enjoy the annual Homesteader Days celebrations.

HomesteaderMuseum.com

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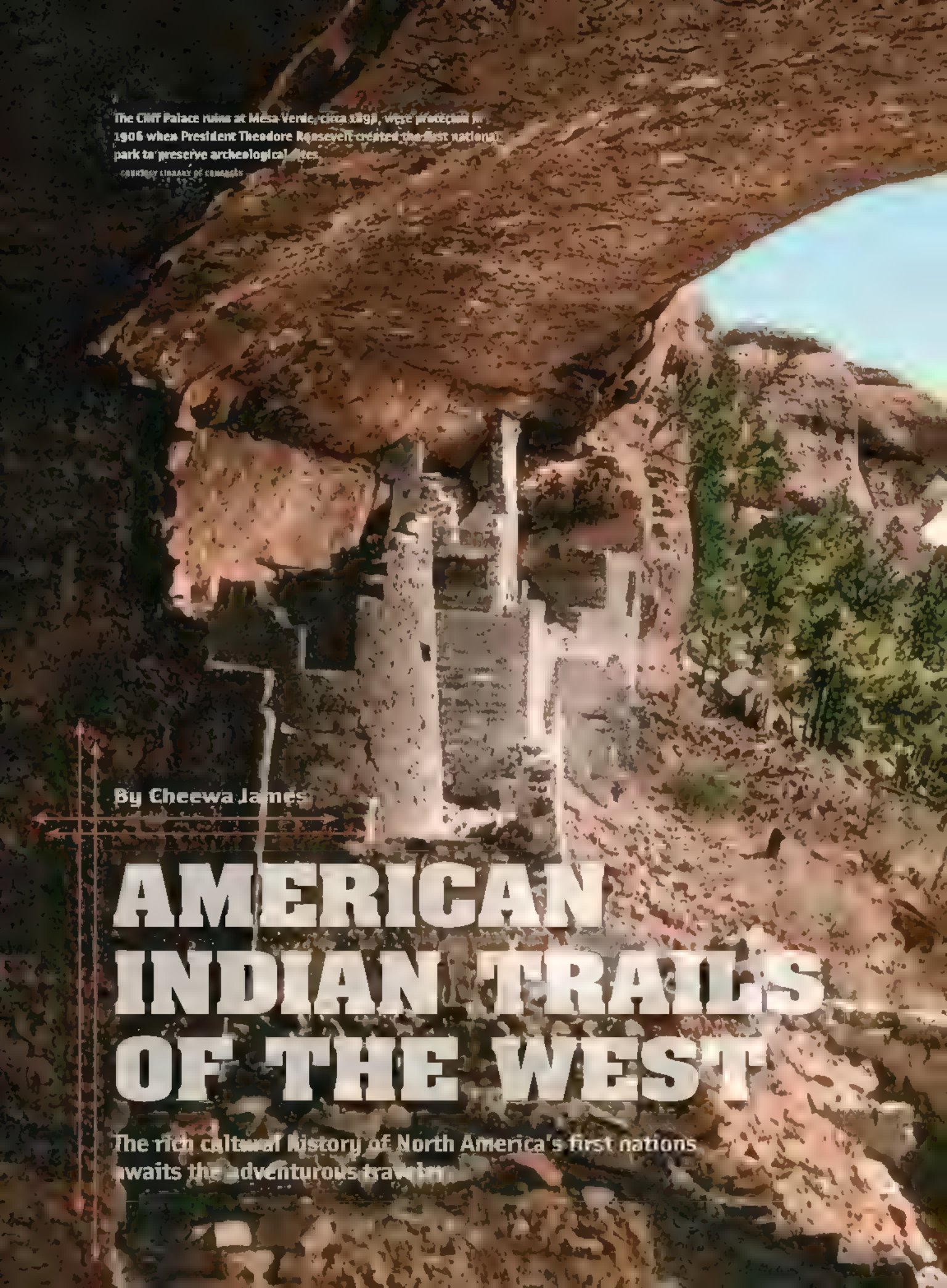

The Cliff Palace ruins at Mesa Verde, circa 1891, were protected in 1906 when President Theodore Roosevelt created the first national park to preserve archeological sites.

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By Cheewa James

AMERICAN INDIAN TRAILS OF THE WEST

The rich cultural history of North America's first nations awaits the adventurous traveler

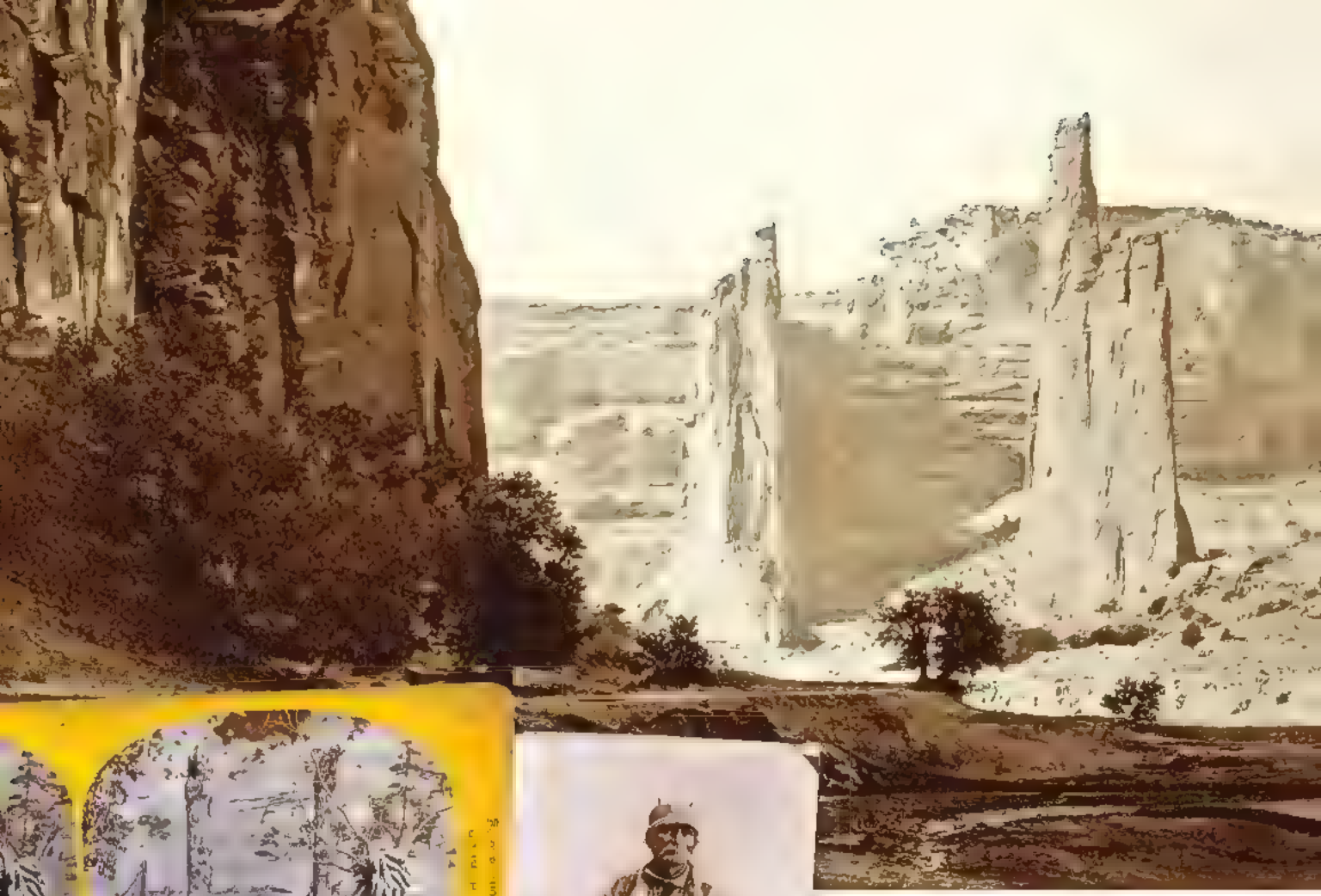
There was a time when America knew nothing of freeways cutting through her prairies nor of smokestacks piercing her clear blue skies. Even bustling gold mining settlements, fringed buggies and Colt Walker pistols did not exist. These were only a faint shadow of the future to come.

This was the time of the American Indian.

With cultures and ways of life that differed from tribe to tribe and nation to nation, these people spread from coast to coast. Even today, over 500 groups of Native people still live in America. As with all indigenous cultures, the land—fondly known as Mother Earth—determined the way of life for these early people. How they ate, the homes in which they lived, and the arts they developed were based on the land. If plant life was appropriate, baskets were made. If the soil was rich with clay, pottery was made. People subsisted on animals and vegetation available to them and in ways that the land dictated.

A number of tribes still live in some ways that are active remnants of their cultures. But for all Native groups, there is a desire to preserve and remember the life created by their ancestors. Pride is there, as it should be. Tribal sites and cultural centers have been developed or preserved throughout America. The trail of the American Indian is there for all to learn from and enjoy—a great legacy for America.

Join us as we explore the heritage of the Indian in the American West.



Canyon de Chelly, a national monument since 1931, has for centuries been a home of Navajo people. Defeated in the war with the U.S. in 1863, the Navajos, including Chief Hamino (left), were relocated to Bosque Redondo Reservation in New Mexico. In 1868, the tribe signed a peace treaty and returned to their traditional homes and pastoral life and activities, including rug weaving (far left), circa 1873.

PHOTOS COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

ON THE ARIZONA-NEW MEXICO TRAIL OF THE LONG WALK

Travelers will discover a rich tapestry of history on the Navajo Nation.

As darkness falls over Arizona's Canyon de Chelly National Monument, fires of the people living far below on the canyon floor flicker into existence. This has been so for centuries.

The Ancestral Puebloan Anasazi people lived in the canyon between 350 A.D. and 1300 A.D., leaving behind cliff dwellings and structures nestled below the towering cliffs. Today's pueblo people are closely related to these ancient ones, with the Hopi people having lived there seasonally after the Ancestral Puebloan Anasazi people left.

The families living there now, many in hogans, are Navajos. Canyon de Chelly is comprised entirely of Navajo tribal trust land. A tragic event occurred in January 1864 when the U.S. government sent frontiersman Kit Carson and some 400 soldiers to forcibly remove the Navajos, burning homes and killing livestock. Navajos from the canyon, as well as thousands of others, were forced on "The Long Walk"—300 miles to the Bosque Redondo Reservation at Fort Sumner in New Mexico territory. U.S. military persecuted and imprisoned 9,500 Navajo and 500 Mescalero Apaches, with many dying. Finally, after treaty negotiations in 1868, they were allowed to return to their traditional homeland.

An hour to the south at Window Rock—a scenic wonder of Navajoland—is the Navajo administrative capitol and the Navajo Tribal Museum. North from Canyon de Chelly, Navajo National Monument and Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park await visitors. In nearby Gallup, New Mexico, see the magnificent Gallup Inter-Tribal Indian Ceremonial, August 5-8, 2015.

American Indian Trails

Even today, over 500 groups of Native people still live in America.

Since 1922 the Gallup Inter Tribal Indian Ceremonial has drawn dozens of tribal dance groups and thousands of visitors every summer to the western New Mexico city

PHOTO COURTESY NEW MEXICO TOURISM DEPT

NORTHERN ARIZONA'S ANCIENT PUEBLOS

The Colorado Plateau's past is open for discovery from Wupatki to Walpi.

The feeling at northern Arizona's Wupatki National Monument is of being one with the earth, wind and sky. The silence of the land is striking.

Evidence shows that Wupatki was inhabited around 500 A.D., but the actual pueblo was built and occupied from 1100 until 1250 A.D. Roughly 900 years ago, a massive volcanic eruption occurred, creating Sunset Crater, a dozen miles from Wupatki. But rather than devastation, a great transformation took place. The volcano's cinders proved to be water retaining, which improved agricultural productivity. That spawned a major population influx with pueblos and settlements flourishing.

At some point in its history, Wupatki became the largest and tallest pueblo around, with over 100 rooms, a community room, and ball court. Wukoki and The Citadel are other major sites nearby.

Some say the Hopi people believe that those who live and die here remain as spiritual guardians. In the solitary quietness and feeling of desolation in this place, one feels that could be true.

The Museum of Northern Arizona in Flagstaff is a marvelous opportunity to explore the rich history and culture of the Southwestern Native people. The museum's Heritage Program Festivals, May through July, honor the Zuni, Hopi and Navajo people, offering a balance of ancient and modern cultural performances and activities of these tribes.

NEW MEXICO'S PUEBLO TRAIL

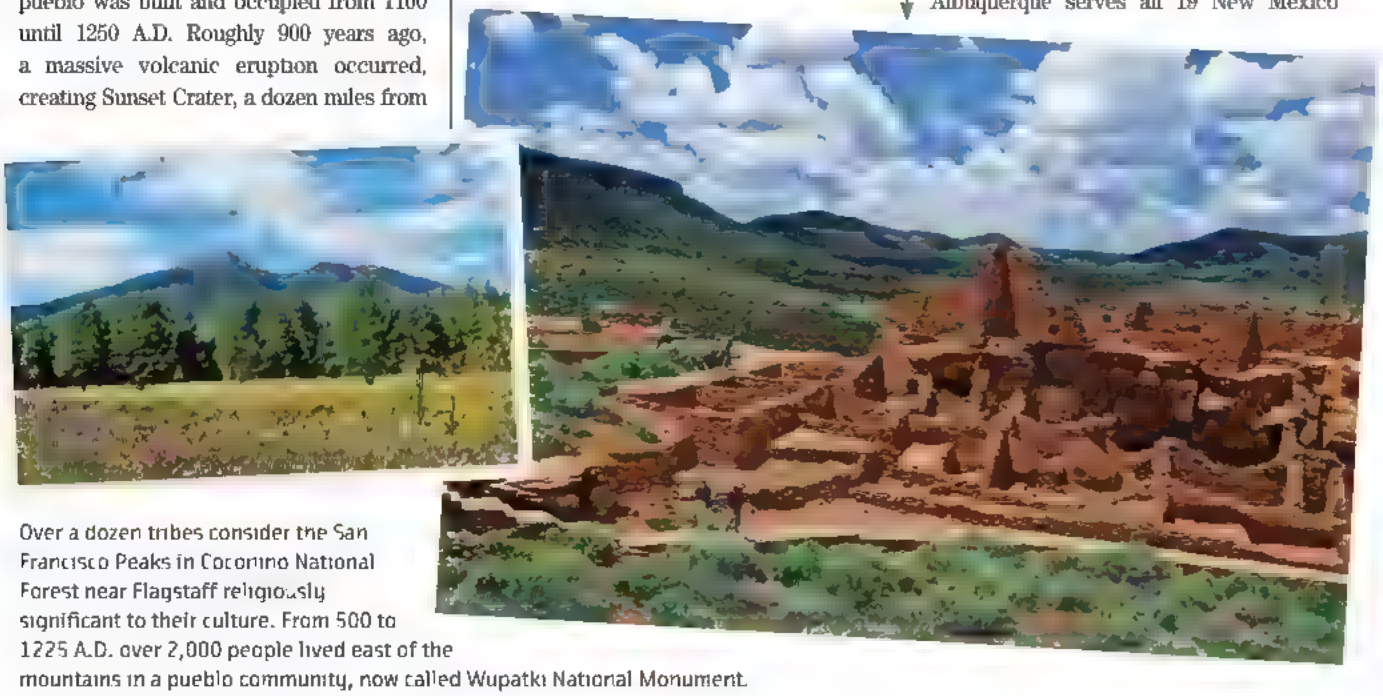
From Albuquerque to Taos, visitors will enjoy the diversity of pueblo history.

Take sand, clay and water. Mix together. Add a fibrous material like sticks, straw or even manure. Shape into bricks. Dry in the sun.

That's the recipe for the magical sun-dried adobe bricks that have created the pueblos of America's Southwest. Pueblo people today live primarily in New Mexico, mostly along the Rio Grande Valley. At one time the pueblo people's homeland reached into Colorado and Arizona.

Symbols of endurance and antiquity, pueblos have a history that stretches back for centuries. Taos Pueblo in northern New Mexico has been continuously occupied for a thousand years. Today it has the largest surviving multi-storied pueblo structures in the United States. The two structures are home to approximately 150 people who live in them full-time. Another 1,900 Taos Pueblo people live on pueblo lands.

The Indian Pueblo Cultural Center in Albuquerque serves all 19 New Mexico



Over a dozen tribes consider the San Francisco Peaks in Coconino National Forest near Flagstaff religiously significant to their culture. From 500 to 1225 A.D. over 2,000 people lived east of the mountains in a pueblo community, now called Wupatki National Monument.

PHOTOS COURTESY FLAGSTAFF CVB, ARIZONA DEPT. OF TOURISM

Albuquerque's Indian Pueblo Cultural Center (inset) and Taos Pueblo community invite the public throughout the year to attend public ceremonials and dances, including this well dressed group of visitors in 1910 (above).

COURTESY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS/NEW MEXICO TOURISM DEPT

pueblos. An American Indian wonderland of murals, art offerings and creative architecture comprise the center. *Our Land, Our Culture, Our Story* features a historical overview of the pueblo world. Other exhibits highlight original artwork and craftsmanship from each of New Mexico's 19 pueblos.

Hungry? The Pueblo Harvest Café at the center offers Laguna kale chicken, chicken Nambe rellenos, and Santa Ana enchiladas!

COLORADO'S FOUR CORNERS TRAIL

The Indian cultural heritage of the San Juan Mountains spans thousands of years.

Standing in awe before the majestic Cliff Palace in Mesa Verde National Park, Colorado, brings to mind the word "ingenious" to describe the ancient people who built it. They are remembered for their skilled construction techniques, remarkable artistry and their signature black and white pottery.

"The Ancestral Pueblo people inhabited the high desert around the Four Corners region," says Mesa Verde National Park's

Ute Indians (inset) have lived near Mesa Verde National Park since the late 1700s. Almost two decades after the "discovery" of Cliff Palace (right) in 1888, the Southern Ute Tribe exchanged tribal lands to assist in the creation of the park in 1906.

COURTESY SCOTT DW SMITH, MESA VERDE CVB/ LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Chief of Interpretations Carol Sperling. "The villages at Mesa Verde were part of more than a thousand communities throughout today's park."

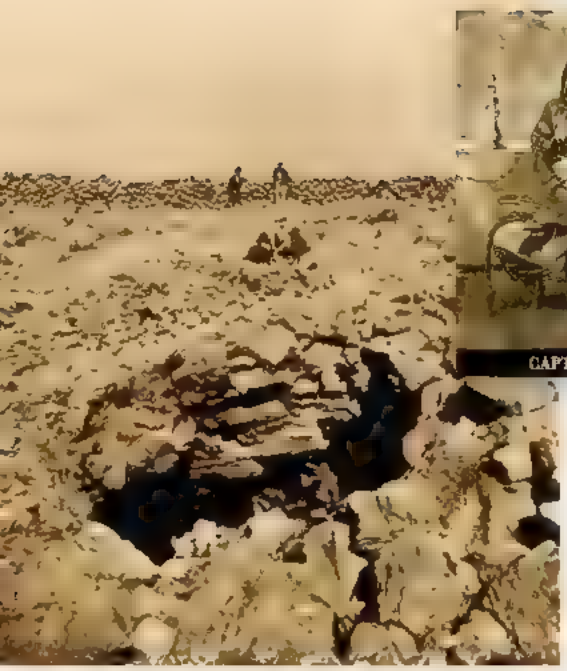
The earliest occupation of Mesa Verde was 550 A.D. By about 1300 A.D., the ancient villages in the Four Corners area were empty and silent. Reasons for the abandonment could include the higher populations' effect on hunting and food availability, or drought, wind and water erosion; or a potential tribal conflict. Spreading to the south and west, descendants of these ancient people now represent 21 Arizona, New Mexico and Texas pueblo tribes. Some pueblo people say that Mesa Verde was part of their people's long migration.

A short drive from Mesa Verde is the Southern Ute Cultural Center and Museum in Ignacio, Colorado. Here are outstanding exhibits of Ute and other Native people's historical experience and their culture today. The unique, dramatic architecture and design of this complex is reason alone to visit.

MODOC HISTORY ON THE CALIFORNIA-OREGON BORDER

Discover the proud history of the Modoc tribe, from Lava Beds to Crater Lake.

The harsh alarm cry of the peregrine falcon echoes across the bleak, jagged lava lands of northern California, known today as Lava Beds National Monument. The former geological turmoil of the land



Today, visitors can tour Lava Beds National Monument in Tulelake, California, and Captain Jack's Stronghold in the lava tubes and caves where the courageous Modoc leader made his stand against the U.S. Army in 1872–'73

COURTESY CHEEWA JAMES/TRUE WEST ARCHIVES

was matched in 1872-'73 by the chaos of the six-month Modoc War.

A small group of Modoc Indians, numbering some 55 warriors along with their women and children, took a stand against U.S. soldiers after an attack on a Modoc village. General E.R.S. Canby was the only general ever killed in an Indian war. They occupied a cleverly fortified natural lava fortress—dubbed Captain Jack's Stronghold after the Modoc leader—in a desperate attempt to keep their ancestral waterways and grounds to the north. Lt. Thomas Wright alleged, "The match for the Modoc stronghold has never been built.... It is the most impregnable fortress in the world."

By the end of the war, over a thousand U.S. troops were engaged in this David and Goliath battle. At war's end, 150 Modocs were sent as prisoners-of-war to Oklahoma Indian Territory.

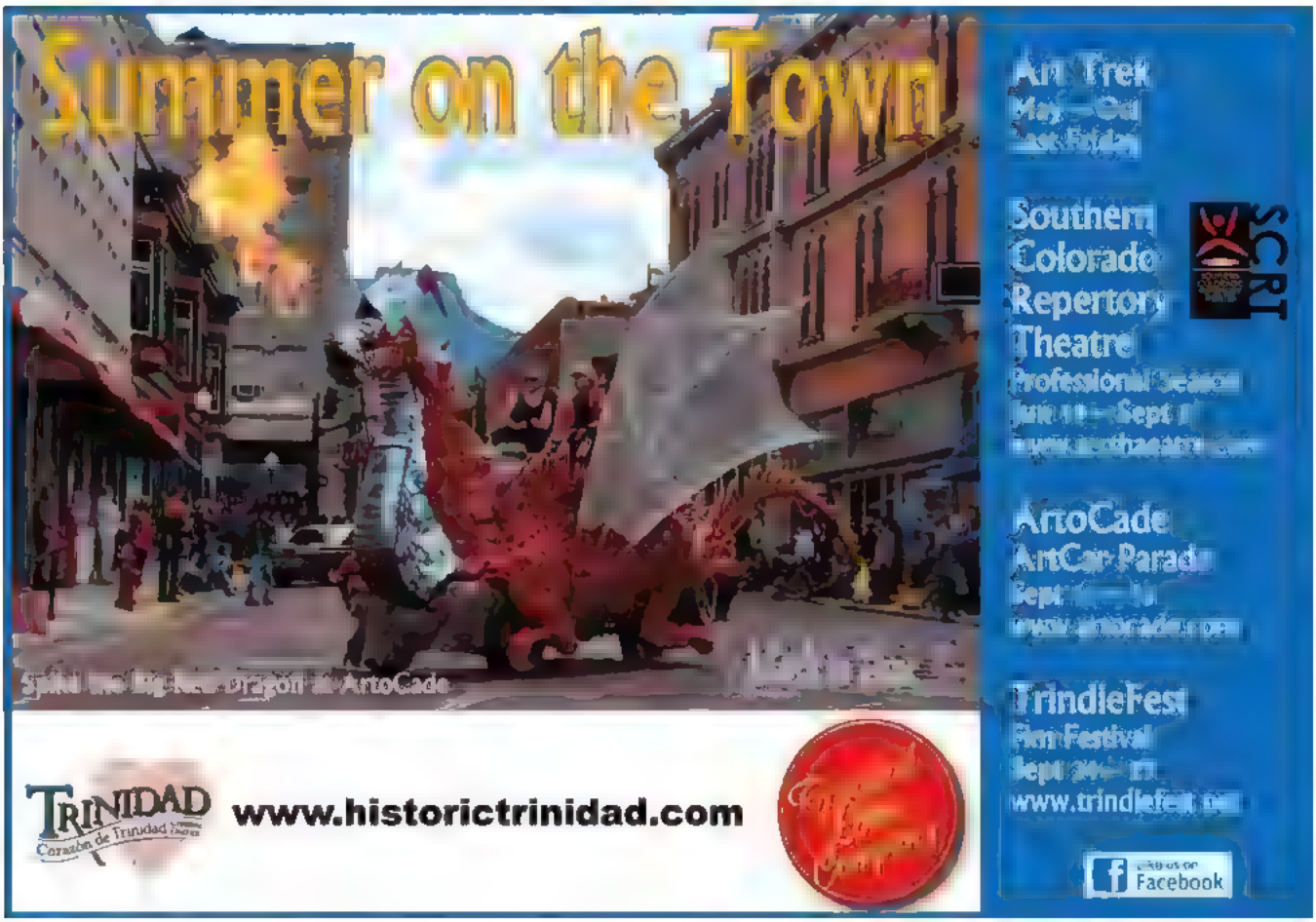
The Favell Museum in nearby Klamath Falls, Oregon, has exhibits on the Modocs, a spectacular collection of Native artifacts, and works of over 300 major Western artists. To the north is the majestic Crater Lake National Park. The startling blue lake had great spiritual meaning to the Modoc people and was often a vision quest destination.

TEXAS PLAINS INDIAN TRAIL

A tour of the Texas Panhandle reveals the rich history of the Comanches.

It is always unexpected, after driving across the flat Texas plain, to arrive at Palo Duro Canyon near Amarillo and to suddenly have the vastness of the canyon sweep open beneath one's feet.

In early times, the canyon had a wide river and lush grasses where bison herds grazed. The Comanches were in the canyon in the 1700s and depended on the buffalo for most of their needs.



The Lighthouse is one of the best-known geologic features of Palo Duro Canyon State Park near Canyon, Texas, which was a home to indigenous people including the Comanche and Kiowa, for approximately 12,000 years.

COURTESY CAROL M. HIGHSMITH/LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The Red River War of 1874 was a U.S. military campaign launched to remove Native tribes from the Southern Plains. The Comanche people were driven out of the canyon. The most devastating blow was the capture of some 1,200 Comanche horses. Most were destroyed by army troops.

"The coming of the buffalo hunters caused the beginning of the end of Comanche culture," says Texas State Parks Interpreter Bernice Blasingame. "The battle of the Red River War in Palo Duro Canyon was the cause of the death of the Comanches' culture as they knew it."

The amazing Plains-Panhandle Historical Museum in Amarillo has exhibits on the Red River War. It has a renowned Native basket collection; displays of pottery, beadwork, paintings and sculpture; and the Quanah Parker Collection showing the great Comanche chief's headdress, lance, Winchester and related artifacts.

NEBRASKA-OKLAHOMA PONCA TRAIL

The legacy of Standing Bear stands tall across the Great Plains.

"My hand is not the same color as yours. But if I prick it, I shall feel pain. If you pierce your hand, you too will feel pain. The blood that flows will be the same color. I am a man."

These words, spoken in an Omaha, Nebraska, courtroom by Ponca Chief Standing Bear, resulted in a May 12, 1879, landmark decision to free this man and his followers from arrest for leaving a reservation in Oklahoma.

In May of 1877, the Poncas had been forced from their northern Nebraska

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homeland on the Niobrara River, walking 600 miles in 55 days to Oklahoma Indian Territory. Eventually they were placed near today's Ponca City, Oklahoma.

When Standing Bear's son died in 1879, his father fulfilled a promise to bury him in the Nebraska homeland. He and some 20 of his followers began the long trek back. They were arrested as they neared their homeland.

Today, a magnificent 22-foot bronze stature of Standing Bear, hand extended toward the Nebraska homeland, stands in Ponca City, part of a 63-acre park featuring a museum and education center dedicated to six area tribes. In the Ponca homeland near Niobrara, Nebraska, is the Ponca Museum and Library commemorating the remarkable Standing Bear.

DESTINY IN MONTANA

The Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument is a sacred site of pilgrimage.

Two great cultures met on a barren plain. One lost the battle. The other lost everything

—L.C. Soubier

Ponca Chief Standing Bear is recognized today as one of the most courageous tribal leaders of his era

COURTESY BUFFALO BILL CENTER OF THE WEST, CODY WYOMING, USA MS 71 VINCENT MERCALDO COLLECTION, P 71 1914

These words reflect one of the last armed efforts of the Northern Plains Indians to preserve their ancestral way of life. The serene 1.5-mile Little Bighorn, Montana, valley—once the village of approximately 6,000 to 8,000 Lakota (Sioux) and Cheyenne, with a warrior force of 1,500 to 2,000 men—stands as a silent natural memorial to the soldiers and Natives who died.

Over 260 soldiers and personnel of the U.S. Army, under the leadership of Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer, lost their lives when they attacked the village on June 25 and 26, 1876. The Lakota/Sioux people were led by respected Lakota leader Sitting Bull, and the estimates of their fatalities range from 30 to 300.

In the heat of the battle, soldiers were ordered to kill their horses and hide behind them. "We arched our arrows high into the sky," says Northern Cheyenne Wooden Leg, "...we rained thousands of arrows behind these horses. Their shots quit coming."

Custer's last stand was also the last stand for the nomadic way of life of the plains tribes.

The soldier markers for Arikara Scout Little Brave and Interpretive Guide Bloody Knife overlook the Little Bighorn Valley below, near the Reno-Benteen Battlefield.

STUART ROSEBROOK

American Indian Trails

The Plains Indian Museum at the Buffalo Bill Center of the West in Cody, Wyoming, complements the Little Bighorn. The Plains Indian Museum is one of five museums at the Center of the West and has one of the country's largest and finest collections of Plains Indian artifacts, artwork and related materials.

OKLAHOMA'S TRAIL OF TEARS

The history of the state's Indian Nations is celebrated at world-class tribal centers.

The state of Oklahoma, with its 39 federally recognized tribes, is rich in Native history and culture. Following the Indian Removal Act of 1830, Oklahoma Indian Territory was the destination of many exiled tribes—often as prisoners-of-war— from their native lands located elsewhere in a budding United States.

The Cherokee homeland in the 1700s occupied some 80 million acres in parts of eight present-day states. Today the Cherokee Heritage Center,

American Indian Heritage Events

Geronimo Exhibition: Arizona Historical Society, Tucson, AZ, *ArizonaHistoricalSociety.org*

Hopi Festival of Arts: Museum of Northern Arizona Flagstaff, AZ, July 4-5, 2015, *MUSNAZ.org*

Sharlot Hall/Prescott Indian Market: Prescott, AZ, July 12-13, 2015, *Sharlot.org*

Native American Dances: End of May through early September 3, at 7 p.m, Wednesdays through Saturdays. Cortez Cultural Center, Cortez, CO, *CortezCulturalCenter.org*

Rendezvous Days and Pow-Wow: Grand Portage National Monument, MN, August 7-9, 2015 *NPS.gov*

Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Annual Pow-Wow: Niobrara, NE, August 7, 2015, *Events.KeloLand.com*

Medicine Lodge Indian Peace Treaty Medicine Lodge, KS, September 25-27, 2015, *PeaceTreaty.org*

The Klamath Tribes 29th Annual Restoration Celebration: Chiloquin, OR, August 21-23, 2015, *KlamathTribes.org*

Gallup Inter-Tribal Ceremonial: Gallup, NM, August 5-8, 2015, *GallupCeremonial.com*

Taos Pueblo Pow Wow, Taos, July 10-12, 2015, *TaosPuebloPowWow.com*

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The Chickasaw Cultural Center in Sulphur, Oklahoma, has become a central source of pride for the tribe, which annually hosts important annual community events, including its National Day of Prayer in September

COURTESY THE CHICKASAW NATION

located in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, features the Trail of Tears Exhibit, the story of the Cherokees' forced removal in 1838 to Oklahoma Indian Territory

Most spectacular is the Diligwa Village, a replica of a complete 1700s Cherokee village "This is where people experience Cherokee life, not just look at it, " says Education Director Tonia Weavel "You see, touch and smell the early Cherokee lifestyle "

The Chickasaw Cultural Center in Sulphur, Oklahoma, has its Chikasha Inchokka Village where a traditional community, before the exile to Oklahoma Indian Territory, comes to life with interactive activities and cultural demonstrations.

The world-renowned Gilcrease Museum in Tulsa is not to be missed. The Gilcrease houses the largest collection of Western American art ever assembled, more than 10,000 works. The anthropology collection includes over 250,000 objects from throughout U S. Native cultures—a true treasure trove After the Gilcrease, a trip to Oklahoma City and a tour of the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum's Native American galleries will have you planning your next trip back to the Sooner State and another tour of tribal cultural sites.

THE NEZ PERCE TRAIL OF IDAHO AND MONTANA

Across the Bitterroots and High Plains, Nez Perce history is honored and celebrated.

"The most extraordinary of Indian wars," was General William T Sherman's description of the 1877 war and 1,170-mile flight of Chief Joseph and the Nez Perce people, beginning in eastern Oregon and ending in Montana.

Although granted the rights to their ancestral homelands by an 1855 treaty, the discovery of gold on their lands saw the Nez Perce rights disintegrating. Ultimately forced to flee in June of 1877, nearly 750 Nez Perce desperately ran for their lives. Only 250 were men who could fight. The rest were women, children, the old and sick. Driving a herd of 2,000 horses, they fought masterfully

BOB BOZE BELL
TRUE WEST MOMENTS
WHERE TRUTH IS STRANGER THAN FICTION
True West Moments
by Bob Boze Bell
NOW ON SALE!
Where truth is stranger than fiction!

The Nez Perce National Historical Park in Lapwai, Idaho, provides an excellent introduction to the history and culture of the northwestern tribe through numerous exhibits, including a display of traditional and ceremonial headdresses and instruments

COURTESY NANCY RICHARDSON/IDAHO TOURISM

in some 20 battles and skirmishes with the U.S. Army.

In October the Nez Perce fought their last battle before surrendering in the Bear Paw Mountains of Montana, a two-day ride from the Canadian border—a place promising freedom. A *New York Times* editorial concluded that: "On our part, the war was in its origin and motive nothing short of a gigantic blunder and a crime."

Adventure awaits the traveler in search of Nez Perce history across five states—Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Wyoming and Montana—on the Nez Perce National Historic Trail —and the Nez Perce National Historic Park's 38 sites in all but Wyoming. In Yellowstone National Park, you can follow the trail the Nez Perce used as they fled the army. A visit to these web sites provides extensive information on battle sites, visitor centers, maps and publications— ways to bring the Nez Perce story to life!

MINNESOTA'S OJIBWE

Discover how the voyageurs opened the West at Grand Portage National Monument.

Biboon (winter) is coming!

With the coming of winter, for which the Ojibwe spent the other three seasons preparing, came the ingenuity and fortitude that characterizes this far north tribe. In addition to creative ways to insulate winter lodges and use animal hides, the Ojibwe invented the toboggan and snowshoes.

The North West Company ran the most profitable fur trade operation on the Great Lakes from 1784 to 1803. Inland headquarters, with its 16 buildings standing inside a palisade, was located at the Grand Portage. The 8.5-mile portage trail allowed hired voyageurs, or trappers, to carry packs between Lake Superior and the Pigeon River.

A unique kinship developed between the Ojibwe and the traders and explorers. The newcomers quickly learned to depend

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American Indian Heritage Sites

Southwest

Amerind Museum, Dragoon, AZ *Amerind.org*

Canyon de Chelly National Monument Chinle, AZ *NPS.gov*

Chiricahua National Monument, Willcox, *NPS.gov*

Fort Bowie National Historic Site, Bowie *NPS.gov*

Navajo Museum, Library & Visitors Center Window Rock, *NavajoNationMuseum.org*

The Museum of Northern Arizona, Flagstaff *MUSNAZ.org*

Mesa Verde National Park, CO *NPS.gov*

Southern Ute Cultural Center and Museum Ignacio *SUCCM.org*

Bosque Redondo Memorial Fort Sumner, NM; *NMMonuments.org*

Indian Pueblo Cultural Center Albuquerque, *IndianPueblo.org*

Taos Pueblo, *TaosPueblo.com*

Great Plains–Midwest

Grand Portage National Monument Grand Portage, MN *NPS.gov*

Grand Portage State Park, Grand Portage *DNR.State.MN.us*

Mille Lacs Indian Museum and Trading Post Onamia; *Sites.MNHS.org*

Ponca Tribal Museum, Niobrara, NE *PoncaTribe-NE.org*

Cherokee Heritage Center, Tahlequah, OK *CherokeeHeritage.org*

Chickasaw Cultural Center, Sulphur, OK *ChickasawCulturalCenter.com*

Gilcrease Museum, Tulsa, OK *Gilcrease.uTulsa.edu*

National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum Oklahoma City, *NationalCowboyMuseum.org*

Palo Duro Canyon State Park Canyon, TX *TPWD.Texas.gov*

Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum Canyon *PanhandlePlains.org*

Pacific Coast–Rocky Mountain

Lava Beds National Monument Tulelake, CA *NPS.gov*

Nez Perce National Historical Park Spalding, ID; *NPS.gov*

Nez Perce National Historic Trail, ID, MT, OR, WA, WY; *FS.USDA.gov*

Big Hole National Battlefield 10 miles west of Wisdom, MT *NPS.gov*

Custer Battlefield Museum, Garryowen *CusterMuseum.org*

Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument Crow Agency; *NPS.gov*

Crater Lake National Park Crater Lake, OR *NPS.gov*

Favell Museum, Klamath Falls, *FavellMuseum.org*

Buffalo Bill Center of the West, Plains Indian Museum Cody, WY; *CenterOfTheWest.org*

Visitors to Grand Portage National Monument will enjoy the living history center of the Ojibwe tribe and the history of the 18th century French and British voyageurs and trappers who built a trading post near the eight mile portage on the north shore of Lake Superior

COURTESY MARK TESSIER/GRAND PORTAGE NATIONAL MONUMENT

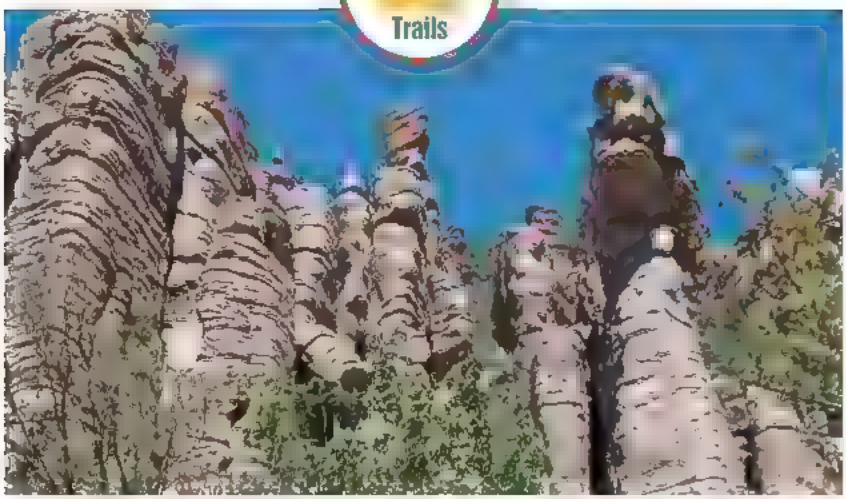
on the techniques and skills of Native people. Perhaps the greatest boon to the Europeans was learning to make the light, very maneuverable birch bark canoes used by the Ojibwe people. On foot, voyageurs could trudge 15 to 20 miles a day, but in the canoe they could cover 60 to 80 miles and carry tons of cargo, too.

As Pamela Neil, Grand Portage National Monument's chief of interpretation puts it: "The native peoples of this region were full partners in a worldwide trade and commodities venture. Without their support and knowledge, the North American fur trade could not have existed."

SOUTHERN ARIZONA'S APACHE HERITAGE TRAIL

Cochise County is a window into the Chiricahua tribal history.

In Arizona, Cochise County is the epicenter of Chiricahua tribal history with more heritage sites dedicated to the tribe's history than anywhere else in the state or country. The county is named after the famed Apache chief, Cochise, who negotiated the best peace treaty his band ever had with the United States in late 1872. The historic settlement created the Chiricahua Indian Reservation, which stretched from the Dragoon Mountains to the Peloncillo Mountains.



The hoodoo rocks of rhyolite at Chiricahua National Monument were originally part of the short-lived Chiricahua Apache Reservation, 1872–'76. Visitors to the monument should start at the Visitor Center, take a guided ranger tour to Faraway Ranch and hike in the Wonderland of Rocks.

DOUG HOCKING

Unfortunately, the treaty was doomed from the start, and after Cochise's death in 1874, the Chiricahua Apaches were almost constantly in conflict with the ever-growing number of American settlers, miners and soldiers streaming into the Southwest. On September 4, 1886, Geronimo and the last of his band surrendered. The Chiricahuas, classified as POWs until 1914, were exiled first to Florida and Alabama, then moved to Fort Sill, Oklahoma, in 1894.

Visitors to Cochise County should start their heritage tour at Chiricahua National Monument in the Chiricahua Mountains for an introduction to the natural and cultural history of the former home of Cochise and his tribe. From the monument, the next stop should be Fort Bowie National Historic Site, which has one of the most interesting hikes in the state, past Apache Springs, across the Butterfield Trail, and to the ruins of the strategic fort. From Bowie, stop in Willcox to visit the Rex Allen "Arizona Cowboy" and Willcox Cowboy Hall of Fame. After soaking up ranching history, drive west and visit the spectacular Amerind Foundation and Museum and its world-class exhibits on Native culture, history and art in Texas Canyon just south of Dragoon. Then drive southwest to the Dragoon Mountains and hike into the Cochise Stronghold, a wondrous, wild place that was one of the legendary chief's favorite retreats.

A tour of Cochise County would not be complete without a visit to Sierra Vista, home to the Fort Huachuca Museum, Gen. Nelson Miles' advance headquarters when he negotiated Geronimo's surrender. ✪

Cheewa James is enrolled with the Modoc Tribe of Oklahoma. Her great-grandfather fought in the Modoc War. She is the author of *MODOC: The Tribe That Wouldn't Die.*

Heritage travelers following the trail of Geronimo across Cochise County should hike into Fort Bowie National Historic Site, visit the Fort Huachuca Museum in Sierra Vista, and tour the Slaughter Ranch east of Douglas.

COURTESY GRESS ALBRECHT

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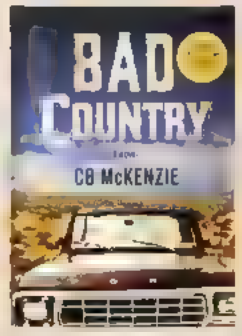

Contemporary Novel
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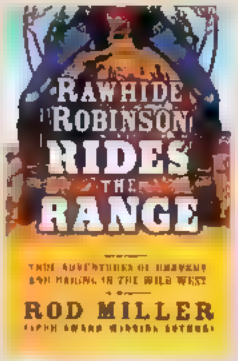
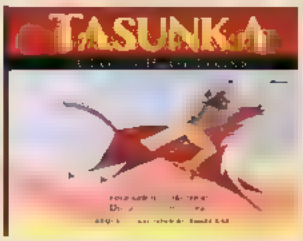
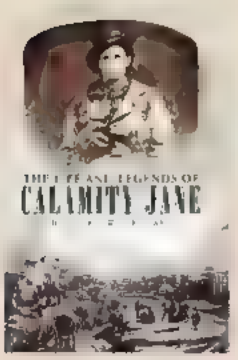


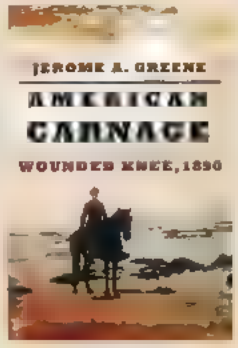
Juvenile Fiction
Rawhide Robinson Rides The Range: True Adventures of Bravery And Daring in the Wild West
by Rod Miller
(Five Star Publishing)



Storyteller (Illustrated Children's Book
Tasunka A Lakota Horse Legend
by Donald F Montileaux (South Dakota State Historical Society Press)



Short Nonfiction
"Calamity Jane: A Life and Legends"
by Richard W Etulain
(Montana The Magazine of Western History)

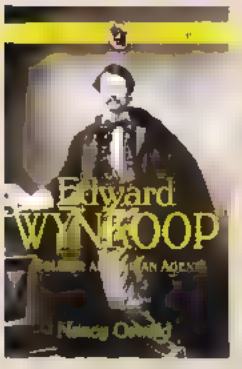


Historical Nonfiction
American Carnage. Wounded Knee. 1890
by Jerome A. Greene
(University of Oklahoma Press,

Contemporary Nonfiction
Red Light to Starboard Recalling the Exxon Valdez Disaster
by Angela Day
(Washington State University Press)

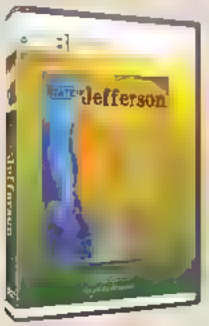
Biography
Song of Dewey Beard. Last Survivor of the Little Bighorn
by Philip Burnham
(Bison Books/University of Nebraska Press)

Short Fiction Story
"Fingers"
by Andrew Geyer
(Steven F Austin University Press)



Juvenile Nonfiction
Edward Wynkoop: Soldier and Indian Agent
by Nancy Oswald
(Filter Press)

Drama Script
The Homesman
by Tommy Lee Jones, Kieran Fitzgerald, Wesley A Oliver (Ithaca Films)



Documentary Script
State of Jefferson
by Kami Horton (Oregon Public Broadcasting)

First Nonfiction Book
Reshaw: The Life & Times of John Baptiste Richard
by Jefferson Glass
(High Plains Press)

Song
"Charlie and Evangeline" by Doug Figgs and Todd Carter
(self-published)

First Novel
Wild Ran the Rivers
by James D. Crownover
(Five Star Publishing)

Poem
"A Little Longer Than the Moment" by Alan Birkelbach
(Cowboy Poetry Press)

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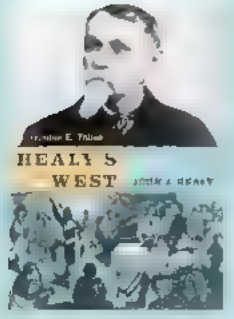

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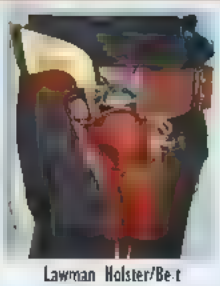

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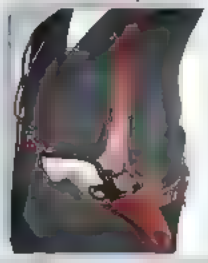

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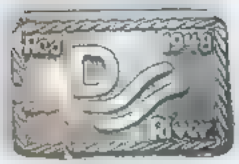

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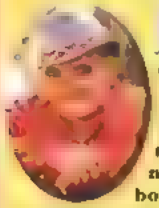

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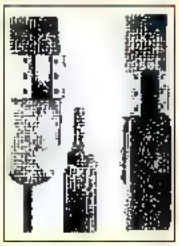

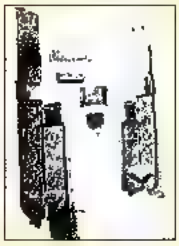

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Western Roundup

FOR JULY 2015

BATTLE OF PLATTE BRIDGE STATION 150TH ANNIVERSARY

Casper, WY, July 24-26: Celebrates the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Platte Bridge Station with a re-enactment and history demonstrations.
307-235-8400 • *FortCaspar.com*

THE LAST ESCAPE OF BILLY THE KID

Lincoln, NM. August 7-9: Watch history re-enactments of the notorious Lincoln County War, including the "last escape of Billy the Kid," plus an appearance by *True West* Executive Editor Bob Boze Bell.
BillyTheKidPageant.org

ART SHOWS

CALGARY STAMPEDE WESTERN ART SHOW

Calgary, AB, July 3-12. View Western art by dozens of artists whose works were selected for display during the Calgary Stampede rodeo.
800-661-1767 • *WesternShowcase.com*

PRESCOTT INDIAN ART MARKET

Prescott, AZ, July 11-12. Exhibits American Indian weavings, pottery, jewelry and paintings, plus offers cultural art and craft presentations.
928-445-3122 • *Sharlot.org*

HERITAGE FESTIVALS

HOPI FESTIVAL OF ARTS & CULTURE

Flagstaff, AZ, July 4-5. Sharing Pueblo tribal heritage, Hopi artists, musicians and artisans gather to celebrate their history and culture.
928-774-5213 • *MusNAZ.org*

LARAMIE JUBILEE DAYS

Laramie, WY, July 4-12. Hometown celebration with a ranch rodeo, kid's horse show, junior bull riding match, parade, chili cook-off and brewfest.
800-445-5303 • *LaramieJubileeDays.com*

OREGON TRAIL DAYS

Gering, NE, July 9-12. Celebrates the people who settled western Nebraska through a kickoff barbecue, old-fashioned parades and live music.
308-632-2133 • *OTDays.com*

[illegible]

Ouray, CO, July 14. Enjoy a historical discussion about medicine on the Western frontier featuring former *True West* contributor Dr. Jim Kornberg.
970-325-4576 • *OurayCountyHistoricalSociety.org*

[illegible]

Buffalo, WY, July 17-19: Author Craig Johnson and actors from the hit series *Longmire* gather to celebrate cowboy culture and Old West heritage.
800-227-5122 • *BuffaloWYO.com*

[illegible]

Golden, CO, July 24-28: Take a trail ride up to Lookout Mountain to visit Buffalo Bill Cody's grave, plus enjoy a Wild West show and parade.
303-279-3342 • *BuffaloBillDays.com*

Western Roundup

FOR JULY 2015

SHOOT-OUT ON WHISKEY ROW

Prescott, AZ, July 25-26: Watch the Southwest re-enactment competition hosted by Prescott Regulators & Their Shady Ladies.
928-445-1754 • *PrescottRegulators.org*

DODGE CITY DAYS

Dodge City, KS, July 24-Aug. 2: Celebration includes a PRCA rodeo, boot hill bull fry, chuckwagon breakfast and Western art show.
620-227-3119 • *DodgeCityDays.com*

COVERED WAGON DAYS

Del Norte, CO, July 30-Aug. 1: Historic wagons, live music and a parade commemorate the town's gold and silver discoveries in the San Juan Mountains.
719-657-0286 • *CoveredWagonDays.org*

MUSIC

WILLIE NELSON'S FOURTH OF JULY PICNIC

Fort Worth, TX, July 4: Concert lineup includes Billy Joe Shaver, Jamey Johnson, Ray Wylie Hubbard, Raelyn Nelson Band and Merle Haggard
512-301-6600 • *CircuitOfTheAmericas.com*

POWWOWS

FIRST PEOPLE'S POWWOW

Sheridan WY, July 7-12: Northern Plains tribes perform traditional powwow dances, plus enjoy music and art demonstrations.
307-673-7121 • *SheridanWyoming.org*

[illegible] POWWOW

Wadsworth, NV, July 17-19: A community of elders and youth gathers to promote and preserve the traditions and cultures of the Northern Paiute.
775-560-1551 • *PLPTnsn.us*

RENDEZVOUS

[illegible]

Riverton, WY, July 1-5: Held at an 1838 campsite, this mountain man re-enactment offers seminars on frontier cooking and tomahawk throwing.
307-856-7306 • *1838Rendezvous.com*

GREEN RIVER RENDEZVOUS

Pinedale, WY, July 9-12: This 1833 mountain man encampment offers fur trade lectures and a pageant honoring rendezvous culture
307-367-2242 • *MeetMeOnTheGreen.com*

RODEOS

PRESCOTT [illegible]

Prescott, AZ
June 29-July 5
Held since 1888, the self-proclaimed "world's oldest rodeo" features steer roping, bull riding, team roping and a parade
928-445-3103
WorldsOldestRodeo.com

BUFFALO BILL CODY [illegible]

Cody, WY, July 1-4: This professional rodeo features competitions in bareback, saddle bronc and bull riding, roping, steer wrestling and barrel racing, plus a parade
307-587-5155 • *CodyStampedeRodeo.com*

BIT & SPUR RODEO

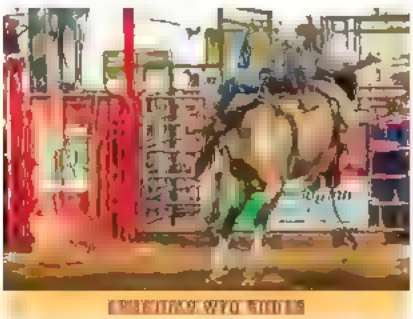
Tooele, UT, July 3-4: The Bit & Spur Riding Club celebrates 70 years at its "Cowboy Independence Day" rodeo celebration, with fireworks
801-712-7137 • *BitAndSpurRidingClub.com*

GRANGEVILLE BORDER DAYS

Grangeville, ID, July 3-5: Idaho's oldest rodeo offers local team roping, barrel and steer riding, and a wild horse race, plus an art show.
208-983-1372 • *GrangevilleBorderDays.org*

CATTLEMEN'S DAYS

Gunnison, CO, July 3-12: This PRCA rodeo offers horse and livestock shows, animal exhibits, a carnival, live music and cowboy poetry
970-596-0149 • *CattlemensDays.com*



[illegible] WYO. RODEO

Sheridan, WY, July 5-12: Enjoy the PRCA rodeo, Indian relay races, rodeo parade, carnival and Indian powwow, plus nightly performances.
307-672-9715 • *SheridanWyoming.org*

[illegible] RODEO

Nampa, ID, July 11-18: This PRCA rodeo features bull and saddle bronc riding, steer wrestling, bareback bronc riding and tie-down roping.
208-466-8497 • *SnakeRiverStampede.com*

FORT DALLES DAYS

The Dalles, OR, July 16-18: This NRPA rodeo and parade celebrates the town's history through donkey races, dances and a street fair
541-296-2231 • *FortDallesDays.com*

Durango, CO, August 13-16:
Join *True West* Magazine's Executive Editor Bob Boze Bell and friends aboard the 1881-82 Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad for a celebration of railroading and the Western lifestyle.
970-247-2733 • *DurangoTrain.com*

CHEYENNE FRONTIER DAYS

Cheyenne, WY, July 17-26: Cowboys compete in a PRCA rodeo, held since 1897, plus enjoy a Western art show and Country concerts.
800-426-5009 • *Cheyenne.org*

CHIEF JOSEPH DAYS

Joseph, OR, July 21-26: This PRCA rodeo features a bucking horse stampede, traditional Indian dances, a parade and a friendship feast.
541-432-1015 • *ChiefJosephDays.com*

NEBRASKA'S BIG RODEO

Burwell, NE, July 22-25: This outdoor rodeo offers up bareback, saddle bronc and bull riding events, plus calf and team roping contests.
308-346-5010 • *NebraskasBigRodeo.com*

NATIONAL DAY OF THE AMERICAN COWBOY

Bandera, TX, July 25: Frontier Times Museum hosts a ranch rodeo, Western music and poetry concerts, and Old West re-enactments
830-796-3864 • *BanderaCowboyCapital.com*

TWMag.com:
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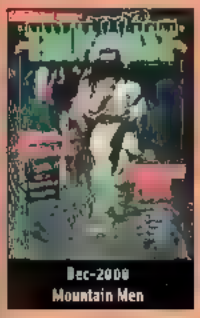
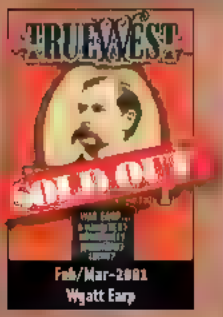

Dec-2000
Mountain Men

Jan-2001
Topless Gunfighter

May/Jun-2001
Custer



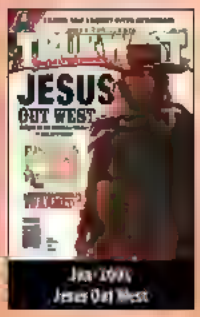
Feb/Mar-2002
Wyatt Earp

Nov/Dec-2002
Butch & Sundance

Jul-2003
Doc & Wyatt

Mar-2004
Fakes/Fake Doc

Sep-2004
Wild Bunch



Jan-2005
Jesus Out West

Dec-2006
Buffalo Gals & Guys

Oct-2006
Tombstone/125th OK Corral

Oct-2007
3:10 to Yuma

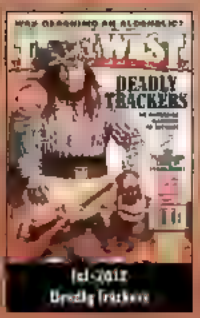
Oct-2008
Charlie Russell

Sep-2009
500 Yrs Before Cowboys

Nov/Dec-2010
Black Warriors of the West

Apr-2011
True Grit/Bridges & Wayne

Jan-2012
Wyatt on the Set



Jul-2012
Deadly Trackers

Jan-2013
John Wayne

Mar-2013

Nov-2013

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2000
- ☐ Jan: Buffalo Bill
- ☐ ~~Feb: Chief Buffalo Horn~~ *Sold Out!*
- ☐ Mar: Richard Farnsworth
- ☐ ~~Apr: Lotta Crabtree~~
- ☐ May: Samuel Walker
- ☐ Jun: Frontier Half-Bloods
- ☐ Jul: Billy & the Kids
- ☐ Aug: John Wayne
- ☐ Sep: Border Breed
- ☐ Oct: Halloween Issue
- ☐ Nov: Apache Scout
- ☐ Dec: Mountain Men

2001
- ☐ Jan: Topless Gunfighter
- ☐ ~~Feb/Mar: Wyatt Earp~~
- ☐ ~~Apr: Geronimo Smiling~~
- ☐ May, Jun: Custer
- ☐ Jul: Cowboys & Cowtowns
- ☐ ~~Aug/Sep: Wild Bill~~
- ☐ ~~Oct: Redman~~
- ☐ ~~Nov/Dec: Doc Holiday~~

2002
- ☐ ~~Jan: Uncommon Men~~
- ☐ ~~Feb/Mar: Alamo~~
- ☐ ~~Apr: The Scout~~
- ☐ ~~May/Jun: Wayward Women~~
- ☐ ~~Jul: Texas Rangers~~
- ☐ Aug/Sep: Jesse James
- ☐ Oct: Billy On The Brain
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Butch & Sundance

2003
- ☐ Jan: 50 Historical Photos
- ☐ Feb/Mar: 50 Guns
- ☐ Apr: John Wayne
- ☐ Spring: Jackalope Creator Dies
- ☐ May, Jun: Custer Killer
- ☐ Jul: Doc & Wyatt
- ☐ Aug/Sep: A General Named Dorothy
- ☐ Oct: Vera McGinnis
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Worst Westerns Ever

2004
- ☐ Jan/Feb: 5 x Guns
- ☐ Mar: Fakes/Fake Doc
- ☐ April/Travel: Visit the Old West
- ☐ May: Iron Horse/Sacred Dogs
- ☐ Jun: HBO's Deadwood
- ☐ Jul: 17 Legends
- ☐ Aug: JW Hardin
- ☐ Sep: Wild Bunch
- ☐ Oct: Bill Pickett
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Dale Evans

2005
- ☐ Jan/Feb: Rare Photos
- ☐ Mar: Deadwood, McShane
- ☐ Apr: 77 Sunset Trips
- ☐ May: Trains/Collector's Edition
- ☐ Jun: Jesus Out West
- ☐ Jul: All Things Cowboy
- ☐ Aug: History of Western Wear
- ☐ Sep: Gambling
- ☐ Oct: Blaze Away/Wyattt
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Gay Western? Killer DVDs

2006
- ☐ Jan/Feb: Mexican Insurgents
- ☐ Mar: Kit Carson
- ☐ Apr: I've Been Everywhere, Man
- ☐ May: The Racial Frontier
- ☐ Jun: Playing Sports in the OW
- ☐ Jul/Aug: Dude! Where's My Ranch?
- ☐ Sep: Indian Yell
- ☐ Oct: Tombstone/125th Ok Corral
- ☐ Nov: Gambling
- ☐ Dec: Buffalo Gals & Guys

2007
- ☐ Jan/Feb: Cowboys Are Indians
- ☐ Mar: Trains/Jim Clark
- ☐ Apr: Western Travel
- ☐ May: Dreamscape Desperado/Billy
- ☐ Jun: Collecting the West, Photos
- ☐ Jul: Man Who Saved The West
- ☐ Aug: Western Media/Best Reads
- ☐ Sep: Endurance Of The Horse
- ☐ Oct: 3:10 To Yuma
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Brad Pitt & Jesse James

2008
- ☐ Jan/Feb: Pat Garrett/No Country
- ☐ Mar: Who Killed the Train?
- ☐ Apr: Travel/Geronimo
- ☐ May: Who Stole Buffalo Bill's Home?
- ☐ Jun: The Last Cowboy President?
- ☐ Jul: Secrets of Our Nat'l Parks/Teddy
- ☐ Aug: Kendricks Northern CBs/Photos
- ☐ Sep: Saloons & Stagecoaches
- ☐ Oct: Charlie Russell
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Mickey Free

2009
- ☐ Jan/Feb: Border Riders
- ☐ Mar: Poncho Villa
- ☐ Apr: Stagecoach
- ☐ May: Battle For The Alamo
- ☐ Jun: Custer's Ride To Glory
- ☐ Jul: Am West, Then & Now
- ☐ Aug: Wild West Shows
- ☐ Sep: Vaquero/500 Yrs Before CBs
- ☐ Oct: Capturing Billy
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Chaco Canyon

2010
- ☐ Jan/Feb: Top 10 WesternTowns
- ☐ Mar: Trains/Pony Express
- ☐ Apr: OW Destinations/Clint Eastwood
- ☐ May: Legendary Sonny Jim
- ☐ Jun: Extreme Western Adventures
- ☐ Jul: Starvation Trail/AZ Rough Riders
- ☐ Aug: Digging Up Billy, the Kid
- ☐ Sep: Classic Rodeo
- ☐ Oct: Extraordinary Western Art
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Black Warriors of the West

2011
- ☐ Jan/Feb: Sweethearts of the Rodeo
- ☐ Mar: 175th Anniv Battle of the Alamo
- ☐ Apr: Three True Grits
- ☐ May: Historic Ranches
- ☐ Jun: Tin Type Billy
- ☐ Jul: Viva, Outlaw Women
- ☐ Aug: Was Geronimo A Terrorist?
- ☐ Sep: Western Museums/CBs & Aliens
- ☐ Oct: Hard Targets
- ☐ Nov/Dec: Butch Cassidy is Back

2012
- ☐ Feb: Az Crazy Road to Statehood
- ☐ Mar: Special Entertainment Issue
- ☐ Apr: Riding Shotgun with History
- ☐ May: The Outlaw Cowboys of NM
- ☐ Jun: Wyatt On The Set
- ☐ July: Deadly Trackers
- ☐ Aug: How Did Butch & Sundance Die?
- ☐ Sep: The Heros of Northfield
- ☐ Oct: Bravest Lawman You Never
- ☐ Nov: Armed & Courageous
- ☐ Dec: Legend of Climax Jim

2013
- ☐ Jan: Best of the West/John Wayne
- ☐ Feb: Rocky Mountain Rangers
- ☐ ~~Mar: Arizona Rangers~~
- ☐ Apr: US Marshals
- ☐ May: Texas Rangers
- ☐ Jun: Doc's Last Gunfight
- ☐ Jul: Comanche Killers!
- ☐ Aug: Tombstone 20th Anniv
- ☐ Sep: Ambushed on the Pecos
- ☐ Oct: Outlaws, Lawmen & Gunfighters
- ☐ Nov: Soiled Doves
- ☐ Dec: Cowboy Ground Zero

2014
- ☐ Jan: Best 100 Historical Phtoos
- ☐ Feb: Assn of Pat Garrett
- ☐ Mar: Stand-Up Gunfights
- ☐ Apr: Wyatt Earp Alaska

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Why Shout "Geronimo?"

Ask The Marshall

BY MARSHALL TRIMBLE

Marshall Trimble is Arizona's official state historian and the vice president of the Wild West History Association. His latest book is *Arizona's Outlaws and Lawmen*. If you have a question, write: Ask the Marshall, P.O. Box 8008, Cave Creek, AZ 85327 or e-mail him at marshall.trimble@scottsdalecc.edu.

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Tom Morton
Vista, California

Here are some good dictionaries to check out. *Dictionary of the American West* by Win Blevins, *Western Words* by Ramon F. Adams, *Cowboy Slang* by Edgar R. "Frosty" Potter, *A Dictionary of the Old West* by Peter Watts and *The Cowboy Encyclopedia* by Bruce Grant.

Did gunfighters practice shooting?

Tom Clinkenbeard
Glendale, Arizona

They sure did practice shooting. They pretty much lived by the gun and didn't want to die that way. Men like John Wesley Hardin, James "Wild Bill" Hickok and William Henry "Billy the Kid" McCarty spent a lot of time practicing. The late Hickok biographer Joseph G. Rosa, who died earlier this year, told me that the gunfighter was afraid his guns would not be fight-ready unless he fired and cleaned them regularly, so he shot each pistol every day. Hickok allowed folks to watch, and witnesses wrote reports that expounded on his accuracy.

Who was hired killer Bob Higdon?

Tom Honeycutt
Fort Smith, Arkansas

Bob Higdon was reportedly hired to kill legendary Texas Ranger Frank Hamer as part of an ongoing feud involving Hamer's wife, Gladys. Some folks believed Higdon had murdered Cullen Higgins, Gladys's lawyer and the son of noted shootist Pink Higgins.

John Boessenecker, who is writing a biography on Frank Hamer, says, "Robert N. Higdon, born in 1855, was a notorious gunman who lived in Lampasas, Texas. Higdon, who carried his six-guns in

Texas Ranger Frank Hamer killed his first man at the age of 16 in 1900. He helped track and kill criminal duo Clyde Barrow and Bonnie Parker in 1934.

COURTESY TEXAS RANGER HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

holsters specially made for him by the noted Texas leathersmith S.D. Myres.

"He had a hard record. In 1899, he killed Dow Mullins in Lampasas, and in 1915, he was arrested for bribing witnesses in an effort to free his son-in-law from a murder charge in Fort Worth. A Lampasas newspaper of the period ranked Bob Higdon alongside notorious Texas feudists such as Pink Higgins, Bob Mitchell and Sam Denson."

Why do airplane paratroopers shout "Geronimo" when they jump?

Pete Snell
Phoenix, Arizona

A retired U.S. Army colonel stationed at Oklahoma's Fort Sill once told me the origin story. One night, Apache leader Geronimo escaped and soldiers pursued him. He ran up Medicine Bluff to a spot 90 feet above Cache Creek, cried out, "I am Geronimo!" and leaped off the bluff. By some miracle, he emerged unscathed.

Early-day paratroopers, who had heard of the legend, believed that since shouting "Geronimo" worked for the Apache, the good fortune would occur when they jumped.

Does "cookie" refer to cook?

Thuy An
Carefree, Arizona

Ramon F. Adams's *Western Words* lists "cookie" as one of the names for a range cook. Cook in Spanish is *cocinero*, so he

A couple of chuckwagons appeared at this cowboy breakfast photographed by F.M. Steele in 1905. Which one of these guys was "cookie?"

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was sometimes called that or "coosie." Another name included "Old Woman."

The cook was the uncrowned king in a cattle drive camp; even the boss paid him homage. Cowboys depended on him for three square meals a day, come rain, snow or shine. His duties included stakeholder on bets, arbiter on arguments, doctor and veterinarian, banker, barber and father-confessor. Most important, he had to make coffee so strong that it would float a horseshoe.

I know British soldiers wore pith helmets in Africa and India, but why did Mexican Revolution Gen. Pancho Villa wear one?

John Wagner
Phoenix, Arizona

From about the 1870s, pith helmets were popular with Europeans serving in the tropics. The U.S. Army commander George Crook wore one while campaigning in the hot Arizona sun, and Pancho Villa did the same to protect himself from the heat. He also wore brimmed hats and peaked caps, also known as barracks covers.

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When Pancho Villa first met Emiliano Zapata, another Mexican Revolution leader, in December 1914, he wore an English pith helmet (above), while Zapata wore a sombrero.

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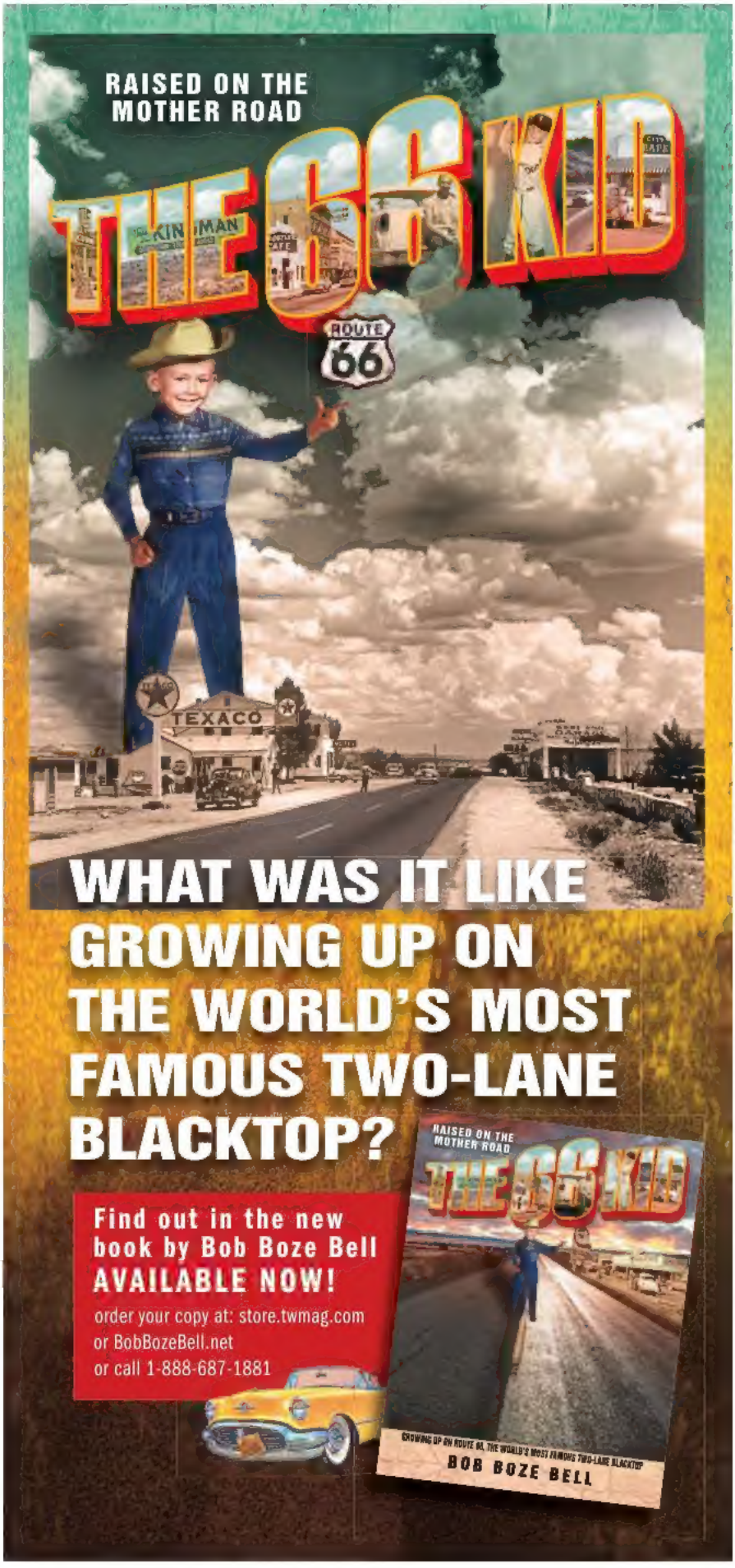
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What HISTORY HAS TAUGHT ME

John Read's favorite place in the West is Arizona's Grand Canyon. For the opening of the park's Bright Angel Lodge in 1935, architect Mary Colter included one of Pancho Villa's sombreros in the lobby.

JOHN READ, PARK MANAGER

A former elementary school teacher, John Read started at Pancho Villa State Park as "heritage educator" in 2008 and was promoted five years later to manager. Established in Columbus, New Mexico, in 1959, the 60-acre park is the only public park in the U.S. named after a foreign invader. The park reflects a gesture of goodwill between the U.S. and Mexico, most notably at its annual Camp Furlong Day, when Mexican horseback riders cross at Palomas, Chihuahua, to join U.S. riders in a trek to Columbus, New Mexico (see above photo of Read, bottom left, with re-enactors). The park largely focuses its exhibits on Gen. John Pershing's Punitive Expedition that chased Villa.

Our most curious Mexican Revolution artifact is the Jeffery Quad armored car. This vehicle was not sent to Columbus, New Mexico, for the Punitive Expedition, although Jeffery Quad trucks were. Yet after the expedition ended in 1917, the U.S. Army at Fort Bliss used the armored car in 1919, when soldiers crossed into Mexico to chase Pancho Villa during the Battle of Ciudad Juárez.

Being a heritage educator requires conducting a great deal of research to make sure you have correct information about your topic. It's difficult because so many history books have errors and misinformation.

I fell in love with New Mexico during a summer break from teaching elementary school in Tampa, Florida, where I was born. My wife and I traveled to New Mexico in our camper in 2005; two years later, we moved to Roswell. We now live in Deming.

No one knows the interesting story about how Pancho Villa State Park got its name. Jack Breen, a deputy sheriff at the time of the 1916 raid, never believed Villa was in Columbus, New Mexico, during the raid, yet he came up with the park's name as a sign of goodwill to Mexico.

The birthplace of the U.S. Air Force is Columbus, New Mexico. The Punitive Expedition, led from the town into Mexico, was the first time U.S. airplanes were used in a war. The park exhibits one of the Curtiss biplanes used in the expedition.

Rather than dwelling on mistakes made in the past, Camp Furlong Day honors the 18 Americans who were killed on March 9, 1916, and also promotes friendship and goodwill between the United States and Mexico.

We will probably never know the real reason for Villa's raid of Columbus. After the raid, Villa was asked about his involvement. He stated that someday he would tell what he knew about the raid, but before he did, he was assassinated in 1923.

The heroes of the day on March 9, 1916, were Maj. Frank Tompkins and 1st Lt. James P. Castleman, both of whom received the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism. Another hero, Lt. John Lucas, set up several Benét-Mercié machine guns and helped Castleman's riflemen catch the Villistas in devastating crossfire. Tompkins and his men pursued Villa's retreating force 15 miles into Mexico, engaged its rear guard four times (the first was a mounted charge) and inflicted severe casualties on the Villistas.

Locals feel Pancho Villa was both a villain and a hero. My opinion is that he was both. Villa wanted the people of Mexico to have a good and honest president, and to be free of harsh government oppression. He showed little restraint in punishing those who got in his way toward attaining that goal.

For the 100th anniversary of the raid, in 2016, the park would like to feature a talk by Apollo 11 astronaut Michael Collins; his father, James Lawton Collins, was Gen. Pershing's personal aide. We are also planning presentations on the role of the Buffalo Soldiers in the Punitive Expedition, adventures with the 1st Aero Squadron pilots and the role of Apache scouts in the hunt for Villa.

Most people would be surprised to know that, in 1914, Villa was considered to be a friend of the United States because he protected large American businesses in Mexico from the lawlessness of the Mexican Revolution. Villa was even called the potential "George Washington of Mexico."

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